



Congratulations to our Past Assistant Provincial Grand Master



On Saturday the 8th of October at a meeting of Spirit of St. George's Lodge our Past Assistant Provincial Grand Master, V.W.Bro. David Willmott was presented with a Certificate celebrating 60 years in Freemasonry. His Certificate was presented in a very personal manner by W.Bro. Mike Harding, Deputy Provincial Grand Master.



David Willmott was born in Topsham, Exeter, Devon in January 1938. He was educated at the Arbroath High School, Arbroath, Scotland, and the Exmouth Grammar School, in Devon. He married Anthea in 1962, and has one daughter, Tina. Sadly, Anthea passed away in early 2008. In 2013, he married Beryl who has 3 sons, 1 grandson and 2 granddaughters

David joined Westminster Bank after getting his 'O' levels. He did National Service in the RAF, which included 17 months in Cyprus. After demobilization, he joined the Bank of British West Africa, and four months later was posted to Freetown, in Sierra Leone, West Africa. Five years later, he was posted to Lagos, Nigeria, where he stayed for 9 years. He then joined the Chase Manhattan Bank of New York, and went to Monrovia, Liberia, West Africa for a couple of years, before a stint in New York, after which he was posted to the Regional Office in Nairobi, Kenya.

Returning to the UK in 1982, he took regional responsibility, initially for their cross border corporate lending into Africa, before assuming country responsibility, initially for the branches in Lebanon, and then, for the Scandinavian countries, the Benelux and, later, the Baltic countries, before retiring in 1998.

David was Initiated into St. Margaret's Lodge, Topsham, Devon in June 1962 and was Passed there, before being Raised in Rokell Lodge in Freetown, Sierra Leone in 1963. He was a member of several Lodges in West Africa while working there. On his return to the U.K. David became Founding Treasurer of Spirit of St. George's Lodge at its Consecration in 1990, and remained Treasurer until 2015, when he took the Chair. He currently holds the rank of Past Provincial Senior Grand Warden.

David was Exalted into the Royal Arch in St. George's Chapter in 1968 and joined Kano Chapter 1973, and Ember Chapter in 1984. He was MEZ in 1989, before becoming Treasurer in 1990, a post held until 2007. David is also a member of North Surrey First Principals Chapter and is currently a Past Provincial Grand Scribe N.

David was Advanced into Premier Lodge of Mark Master Masons No 642 in Lagos in 1968 and was briefly a member of Kenya Mark Lodge in Nairobi, Kenya, before joining Esher Lodge of Mark Master Masons in 1987, where he was Master in 1994. He was a Founder of Table Fellowship Lodge of Mark Master Masons and is a member of several Mark Lodges in the Province.

David received several Surrey Provincial honours until becoming an Assistant Provincial Grand Master in 2010. He holds the Grand Rank of Past Grand Junior Overseer.

David was Elevated into Premier Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners in Lagos in 1968. He joined Esher Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners in 1987 becoming Commander in 1993 and re-elected in 1994 and 2018. He received Provincial Rank in 1997 and Grand Rank in 2000. David is, or has been, a member of five other progressive Orders.



W.Bro. Mike read the certificate, and afterwards the Brethren congratulated David on achieving 60 years in Masonry. There to see our Past Assistant Provincial Grand Master receive his Certificate were several Surrey Mark Masons, who were delighted to share this special day with David.

Another Busy Afternoon for Richmond Mark Lodge



On Monday 10th of October, Richmond Lodge of Mark Master Masons were pleased to receive V.W.Bro. John V C French, P.G.J.O., Deputy Provincial Grand Master, accompanied by many Provincial Officers of the year.



After the customary photographs were taken, the members and their guests retired to the bar for refreshments before enjoying a most convivial meal together where, as is customary in Mark Festive Boards, the members of the Allied Masonic Degrees wore their AMD napkins.



The Lodge was opened by the Acting Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Tim Ford who welcomed the members and guests present. The Brethren stood in silence in respect of our departed Queen Elizabeth II.

A ballot was taken for a Candidate for Advancement, Bro. Warren James Penn, a member of Mole Lodge No 4627. This proved in his favour and Bro. Warren was Advanced to the honourable degree of a Mark Master Mason in an excellent manner by W.Bro. Tim Ford, assisted by the Officers of the Lodge. The Working Tools were presented by W.Bro. Steven Cann.

Brother Warren was welcomed into the Lodge by W.Bro. Tim, and into the Order by V.V.Bro. John French. The Lodge was Called Off for a few minutes and then Called On.

The Worshipful Master welcomed V.W.Bro. John V C French, P.G.J.O., Deputy Provincial Grand Master, to Richmond Lodge and, on behalf of the brethren, wished him a most enjoyable visit before offering him the gavel.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master introduced the Provincial Officers accompanying him and spoke about the success of the 2022 Festival thanking everyone for their efforts in us reaching a magnificent sum of £1,002,022.

The main item on the agenda was to Install Bro. Nick Butterworth as Worshipful Master for 2022/23. This was done in an excellent manner by W.Bro. Tim Ford.

The Working Tools were presented by Bro. Andrew Banks. The Address to the Master was given by V.W.Bro. Chris Eley, the Address to the Wardens was given by V.W.Bro Mik Barnes and the Address to the Brethren was given by V.W.Bro. John French. V.W.Bro. John French congratulated W.Bro. Nick on his installation as the Worshipful Master of the Richmond Lodge of Mark Master Masons and wished him an enjoyable and successful year.

So, what did you do at the Weekend?

I slept near a green man and sat in a waterless washing machine - let me explain.



We descended to the pit lane and donned our protective gear of a fire-retardant mask and helmet. My turn came for an introduction to Silverstone in a very fast BMW Sport. The driver, another young man who made his living racing cars, explained that there would be some three hundred drivers on the day. We went like a bat out of hell and occasionally drifted. Great fun. How did I feel? Like sitting in a washing machine but with no water. I was schooled on when to brake, steer and accelerate - my goodness, that was some experience.



Thanks to Michael Fenech for the article and photos

I have four wonderful grandchildren and two of them clubbed together for me to have a drive round the F1 Circuit at Silverstone on Sunday. We stayed at a Greene Man pub overnight. We found out the next day that there was a hotel on the circuit site. I would have preferred to stay there myself.

I was somewhat concerned in that I had not read all the details sent to me.... there were six pages... and I discovered that I had not signed the disclaimer. I was apprehensive, would they let me go round? The pleasant girl on reception at the circuit soon put my mind at rest and gave me one to complete there and then.

A very, very confident young man took our group for a briefing and explained all to us in a very informative and serious but pleasant way. A great start.



However, the best was yet to come but I had made up my mind. I explained that I had the benefit of driving fast cars but not on a circuit.

I asked my tutor if he would drive. I thought that it would take me some time to master the skills of when to do what. He just smiled.

He asked me if I really wanted to go fast. Yes please! We overtook everything on the track, Porches, Astons and Ferraris. Those drivers were doing the learning thing. I was doing the thrill thing!

I just hung and as we tore up the Hamilton straight at full speed, well in excess of 100 mph. The corners were gravity defying and the brakes were at full heat. What tyres???? I managed a picture with my phone camera, but it gives no impression of the speed or experience. I loved it. The driver was amazing and in complete control, well most of the time.

On a previous year I had seen Hamilton win at Silverstone and to drive down the same track at an amazing speed was very impressive. I was blown away.

There is more to Silverstone than the circuit and we booked in to the museum, had a coffee and some sandwiches before going round for a fascinating couple of hours. We saw the beginnings of the history of the track and how it developed into our premier national racing circuit, sat in an old 1950 racer (lookalike model car) and gazed in awe at some stirring mementoes.

I always set myself a target in life and now I am looking at flying in a Spitfire. My dad was in the Royal Air Force during the war as an AC second class. I will let you know how I get on.

Surrey Mark 2022 Cha Di Da

Charity... YES! Dinner ...YES! Dance...Most Definitely YES!



What a brilliant evening. I set off with my lovely lady and yet again, the three grand officers all rolled up into one - Barrie Selway.

An easy ride down the A3 and M25 and we were at the Reigate Manor Hotel, checked in and meeting up with members of St. Andrews 806 in no time at all.

Our WM and Secretary were there, and we chin wagged with other Mark men. What a great start to what promised to be a very happy evening. Met up with a guy who told me that his Mark Lodge was brimming over with men just waiting to be advanced. Very reassuring.

We were soon off to our respective rooms to smarten up for the evening. It's good to get dressed up for a special Saturday night out every now and again.

The evening was now set, and we waited for it to begin with some anticipation. Our Grace was presented with a deeply Scottish accent by W.Bro. Bill Caughie who was with his family. I do so appreciate a foreign tongue!!! And he looked the part in his magnificent kilt and cultural gear. It was good to notice that he was not alone in his attire, brilliant! And the latter was a jolly good mover later, on the dance floor. Our food was soon served, all courses delivered by attentive staff, well supervised and pleasant in their delivery.

We were placed near to the Raffle prizes - that was some table. With Chris Eley dining with us, I was excused taking my average pictures and left that element of the evening's entertainment in his very capable hands. Well, till a certain Provincial Grand Master asked me to stand on a wobbly chair and take a picture of the dance floor. Or was it me who was wobbling and not the chair!

The wine was very acceptable. You judge when you see the pics attached by our in-house photographer.





It is very difficult to put into words what a superb evening we had. Our table was so interesting and David and his wife, Sandra, made us feel very much at our ease.

The floor show was soon on us, and Anne was thrilled with the Elvis section of the evening. We have visited Memphis and that visit could be a story in itself. Needless to say, we have seen the great man's resting place and house.

Then came the raffle, carried out at speedily and efficiently by Alan and Wendy. The table groaned with prizes of every description, and we won a hamster toy!!!! We have cats!!! We were all pleased to hear that the total raffle amount was in excess of two thousand pounds.

A great gig came after this brilliant raffle, presented by the excellent soul singer, Jahson Nembhard (*formerly of the Drifters*), and his amazing repertoire of chansons from times gone by.

The floor was always filled with men and women dancing to beautiful music. The hotel's rule about finishing at midnight was adapted to the requests of so many people... we finished happy and tired. This superb singer then helped the evening go to a different height with the now customary air guitar competition with grandad Barrie's son winning a medal.

We arrived at the conclusion of this so pleasant soiree with more Motown and Jamaican garage. Lovely slow dancing ended a great evening with romance.



What a sensitive way to conclude. Will we be there next year? Yes, we will - will you????

Thanks to Michael Fenech for the article

Like Harry, we are now looking forward to the OSM Christmas Party at the same venue on Saturday the 10th of December where we will be entertained by Always Whitney + Mowtown & Soul, two fantastic shows in one night from Tashara Forrest



A visit to a Sussex Mark Lodge



On Tuesday the 6th of October, V.W.Bro. David Blackburn, Past Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and I were invited down to Littlehampton by W.Bro. Andrew Ford, P.A.G.Swd.B. to attend his installation into Hampton Parva Mark Lodge No 1117. Also present as a guest of Andrew's was his son, Stuart, and R.W.Bro. George Deacon, Provincial Grand Master of the Mark Province of Hampshire and Isle of Wight.



Making an Official Visit to the Lodge was W.Bro. Colin Stanley, Provincial Grand Senior Warden, with his Escorting Officer, W.Bro. Tony Brothers. It was good to meet up with Colin again as we are in Sussex Athelstan together.



I thought I had left plenty of time to pick up David and drive down to Littlehampton. I had not taken into account all the roadworks in Sussex, and we arrived a few minutes late. We were, however, warmly welcomed by the Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Kenneth Skilton, and the Brethren of the Lodge and settled into our seats in the East. The plain outside of the Masonic Hall in Church Street, Littlehampton, is in stark contrast to the beauty of the Temple inside. There were much Masonic memorabilia all around the Temple, and the Lodge furniture was believed to have originated in France.



After several joining members had been successfully balloted for, the Worshipful Master thanked his Officers for their support, and presented his annual report. He then installed W.Bro. Andrew into the Chair of the Lodge in a most sincere manner.

After the Worshipful Master had appointed and invested his Officers, and the regular business of the Lodge had been concluded, the Lodge was closed and, after the customary photographs, we drove along to the Vardar Restaurant where we enjoyed a most convivial meal together.

The Surrey Mark Masons even took the liberty of wearing their AMD napkins at the Festive Board.



Thanks Andrew and the Brethren of Hampton Parva Mark Lodge for making us so welcome.

Congratulations



Several of us were there to support our Brethren, including the District Grand Prefect of the Allied Masonic Degrees in Surrey, R.W.Bro. John French, our Deputy Provincial Grand Master.

Congratulations to the Surrey Mark Brethren who received Grand Honours at the meeting of Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees in October.

Appointed to Grand Steward were our Provincial Grand Master, Ian Clark, and David Bardon (*through Kent*).

Congratulations also to Ray Beadle, Mike Neville, and Bob Hancock.



Comites Sigillorum - the fight back.

On the 1st November Comites Sigillorum Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners elevated Brother Peter Deacon; their first elevation for 14 years.

The Ceremony was carried out by members and guests, ably assisted by our Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Ian Clark. G.M.R.A.C., who assisted as Senior Warden.



Afterwards our Provincial Grand Master congratulated Brother Peter and welcomed him into the Order.

Thanks to Ray Beadle for the article and photo

Flying the flag at Guildford

Recently spotted at a festive board following a meeting of Hiram Lodge of Mark Master Masons was W.Bro. Alastair Richardson, proudly sporting his AMD napkin.



Members of the Allied Masonic Degrees in Surrey are encouraged to wear their AMD napkins at Mark festive boards to promote this very interesting Order.

For more information visit:

<http://www.alliedmasonicdegrees.co.uk/the-order.html>

Key dates for your diary



Wednesday
7th December 2022

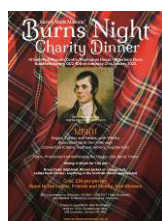
Raid on the Keystone
at Percy Lodge

Guildford

Monday
12th December 2022

Royal Ark Mariner
Annual Assembly

Great Queen Street



Saturday
21st January 2023

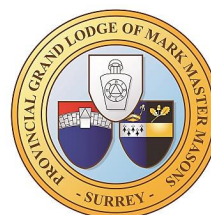
Burns Night Supper

Guildford

Saturday
18th March 2023

Provincial Grand Lodge

Croydon



Tuesday
6th June 2023

Mark Grand Lodge

Great Queen Street



Tuesday
12th September 2023

Mark Grand Lodge

Great Queen Street

Executive Visits to Lodges

Thursday 17 November 2022	Croydon 198	V.W.Bro. John French	Croydon
Thursday 17 November 2022	Welcome 1237	W.Bro. William Barr	Sutton
Monday 21 November 2022	Kintore 333	R.W.Bro. Ian Clark	Croydon
Saturday 26 November 2022	Bond of Friendship 1576	R.W.Bro. Ian Clark	Croydon
Monday 5 December 2022	Warlingham 1321	W.Bro. Richard Knox	Nutfield
Wednesday 7 December 2022	Percy 114	R.W.Bro. Ian Clark	Guildford
Thursday 8 December 2022	Northern Heights 989	V.W.Bro. John French	Sutton
Friday 9 December 2022	Manor of Bensham 1167	W.Bro. William Barr	Croydon
Friday 13 January 2023	Lingfield 1419	R.W.Bro. Ian Clark	Nutfield
Saturday 14 January 2023	Bolingbroke 451	V.W.Bro. John French	Croydon
Thursday 2 February 2023	Table Fellowship 1841	V.W.Bro. John French	Surbiton
Tuesday 7 February 2023	Comites Sigillorum 1352	V.W.Bro. John French	Croydon
Thursday 9 February 2023	Crystal Palace 450	V.W.Bro. John French	Nutfield
Thursday 9 February 2023	Woodstock Grape & Grain 1569	W.Bro. Richard Knox	Surbiton
Monday 13 February 2023	Hiram 13	R.W.Bro. Ian Clark	Guildford
Saturday 18 February 2023	Rose 534	R.W.Bro. Ian Clark	Surbiton
Friday 24 February 2023	H A Mann 1197	W.Bro. William Barr	Sutton
Tuesday 28 February 2023	Curfew 1411	R.W.Bro. Ian Clark	Chertsey
Tuesday 28 February 2023	Camberley 1131	W.Bro. William Barr	Camberley
Thursday 2 March 2023	Croham Hurst 1050	W.Bro. William Barr	Croham Hurst Golf Club
Thursday 9 March 2023	Sanderstead 1742	W.Bro. Richard Knox	Croydon
Friday 10 March 2023	Stoneleigh 995	R.W.Bro. Ian Clark	Sutton
Thursday 16 March 2023	Pride of Surrey 1738	V.W.Bro. John French	Sutton

Will your Lodge take home the Travelling Keystone?

In October five members of Percy Lodge No. 114 performed a 'raid' on Rose Lodge of MMM No. 534, holders of the "Travelling Keystone" since the Annual Meeting in March, to re-capture it from them.



The 'team' from Percy Lodge consisted of the Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Clive Goode; V.W.Bro. John French, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, W.Bro. Graham Beer, Bro. Stuart Hogarth and Bro. Peter Skoglund.

The Worshipful Master of Percy Lodge, together with the other members present, rose at the Festive Board to "claim" the Travelling Keystone. The DC checked with the Secretary who confirmed that everything was in accordance with the "rules" and their attendance was recorded in the register.

Our Provincial Grand Master handed the Travelling Keystone to the

Worshipful Master of Percy Lodge attended by the other members of the Lodge.

As you can see, the Provincial Grand Master was reluctant to release the Travelling Keystone to Percy Lodge who announced that this would be the third time that they had 'claimed' the Keystone. However, the Provincial Grand Master reminded them that, unlike the Jules Rimet trophy, they do not get to keep it!

There is an opportunity for your Lodge to claim the Keystone from the Brethren of Percy Lodge on Wednesday the 7th of December at Guildford.

They have a full agenda, with a Royal Ark Mariner meeting and a Mark Installation meeting, which will be attended by our Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master and his team of Provincial Grand Officers.



In the RAM they will Elevate Bro. Peter Skoglund a member of Percy Mark Lodge. After that there will be a presentation of a Royal Ark Mariners Certificate to Brother James Birdseye.



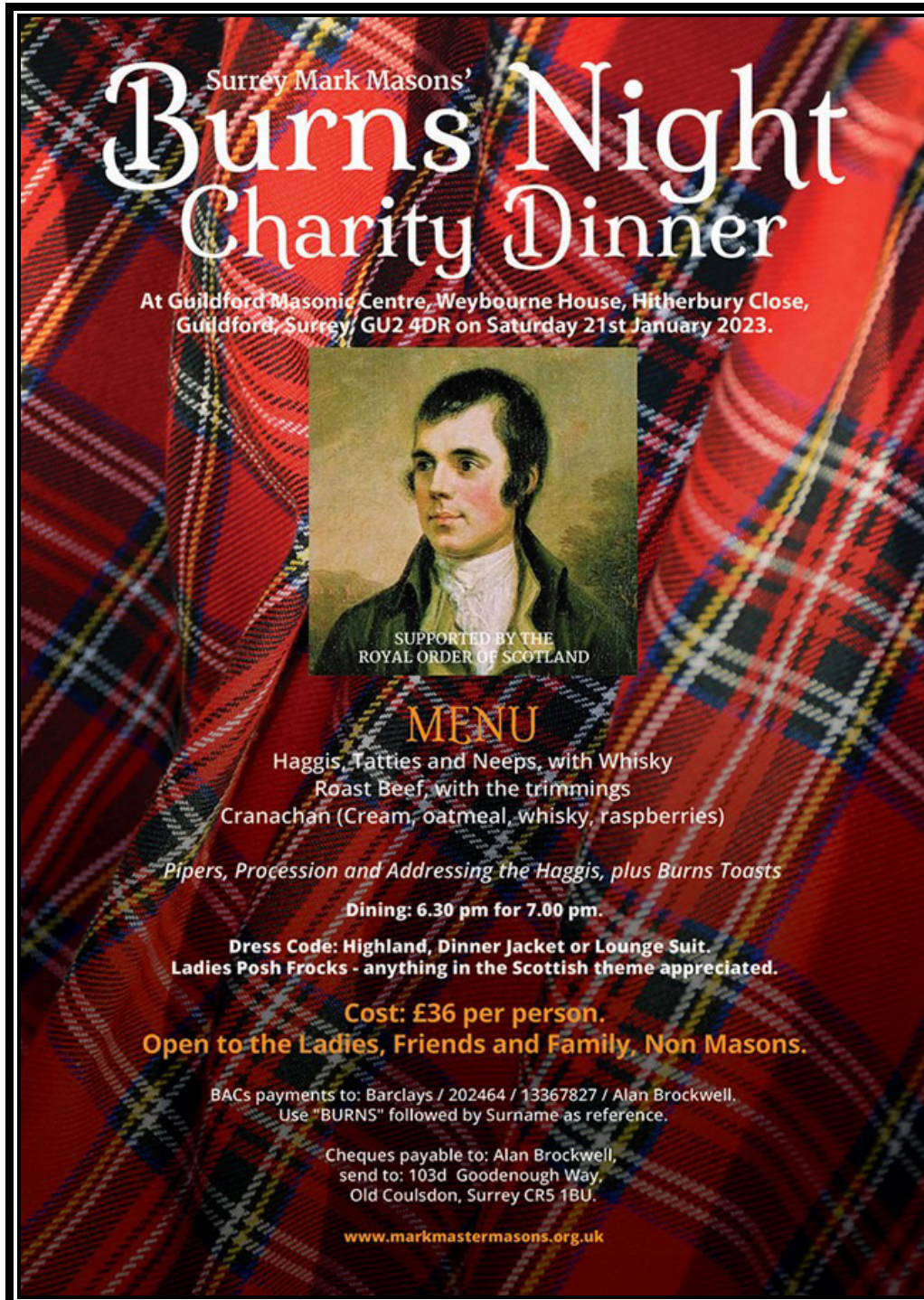
In the Mark they will Proclaim W. Bro. Clive Goode W.M. for the ensuing year and then receive a lecture on the Degree of Mark Master Mason presented by W. Bro. David Bleming.



To book yourself a place please contact the Secretary W.Bro. Graham Beer on grahambeer.gb@gmail.com

Burns Night 2023

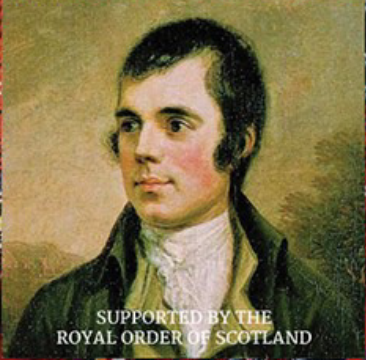
The Surrey Mark Masons 2023 Burns Night Charity Dinner will be held at the Guildford Masonic Centre, Weybourne House, on Saturday 21st January 2022. There are a few places left, so book now to ensure you don't miss out.



Surrey Mark Masons'

Burns Night Charity Dinner

At Guildford Masonic Centre, Weybourne House, Hitherbury Close,
Guildford, Surrey, GU2 4DR on Saturday 21st January 2023.



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: £36 per person.
Open to the Ladies, Friends and Family, Non Masons.**

BACs payments to: Barclays / 202464 / 13367827 / Alan Brockwell.
Use "BURNS" followed by Surname as reference.

Cheques payable to: Alan Brockwell,
send to: 103d Goodenough Way,
Old Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 1BU.

www.markmastermasons.org.uk

Last year the event was a sell out with 125 Brethren, their wives, family and friends, thoroughly enjoying the traditional Scottish fare and atmosphere. Diners came from far and wide across the Southern part of England, with many wearing the Kilt.

The Burns Night is a Joint event by the Provincial Grand Lodge of the South Eastern Counties of the Royal Order of Scotland, and the Mark Province of Surrey. Last year the Provincial Grand Master of the Royal Order of Scotland, Charles Stoddart, gave the Address to the Haggis.