



A New Year Message from our Provincial Grand Master



Brethren as I reflect back over the last year, I am thankful for the good times and appreciative of overcoming the troubled moments, remembering that our cup is always half full and never half empty.

Let us embrace the promise of fresh beginnings and untold possibilities. Reflect on the lessons learned, cherish the moments shared, and let gratitude illuminate your path forward.

In these times of uncertainty, it is so refreshing to be in the company of Mark Master Masons, sharing the passion for our Order and the enjoyment of each other's company; and long may that continue!

As we embrace the opportunities and challenges that the new year brings, let us uphold the Masonic principles that have illuminated our path for centuries. May the year ahead be marked by harmony, prosperity, and a deepened commitment to the noble ideals we hold dear.

Should anyone require any help, support or assistance in any way please do not hesitate to contact me, and please stay in contact with one another at all times because ***among Mark Master Masons you will ever find friends!***

Wishing you and your loved ones a Happy New Year filled with light, wisdom, and the enduring spirit of Mark Masonry.

Kindest regards

John

Louis Maurice Keats

In Memory Of



Louis Maurice Keats

23rd February 1944 - 27th November 2023

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Lou on the 27th November 2023.

Adored husband of Kath, beloved dad to Tara and Sara, a much loved brother, grandad, great grandad, father in law, brother in law and friend to many.

Would family and friends please meet for a Celebration of Lou's Life at Darlington Crematorium on Friday 15th December at 1:00 p.m.

A livestream is also available to view the service at watch.obitus.com
Username : humi9508 Password : 539895

No flowers by request.
Donations, in lieu, may be given in memory of Lou for the work of the Stroke Association.

Please address all enquiries to
Seaton Leng & Son Ltd. 59a Bondgate, Darlington, DL3 7JR
01325 465 647 enquiries@seatonleng.com

We will love and miss you forever Lou

It is with great sadness that we learnt of the sudden passing of a dear friend and Brother, W.Bro. Louis Keats, P.G.J.D. Provincial Grand Chaplain.

Louis was Advanced into Polytechnic Mark Lodge in April 1989 and Elevated into Rose Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners in April 1992.

Louis was a very active Mark Mason. He joined Rose Mark Lodge in 1992, Surrey Installed Mark Masters and London Installed Mark Masters Lodges in 2001, London Mark Provincial Grand Stewards Lodge in 2005, Frederick Wheeler Mark Lodge in 2011, Mark Provincial Grand Stewards Lodge of Surrey in 2012, Knightsbridge Mark Lodge in 2017, and Chief of the Builders Mark Lodge in 2021.

He received his first appointment in Grand Rank of **P.G.St.B.**, in 2008 and was promoted to **P.G.J.D.** in 2016.

In Surrey he was our Provincial Grand Chaplain from 2016 to 2022.

Louis, who held high rank in many of the Companion Orders, including Provincial Grand Summus in the Scarlet Cord from 2015 to 2020, will be remembered as a true Friend of all Friends, a man with a quick wit who was always ready to help others. He will be sorely missed by us all.

His funeral service was held in his home town of Darlington on Friday the 13th of December. There were many of his Masonic friends present at the service, as well as many of us watching online.



Our Provincial Grand Master's Chosen Charity

Man Van
A free men's health check



The 'Man Van', an innovative new outreach programme, was launched in March 2022 to provide free health checks for men and boost early diagnosis of prostate and other urological cancers.



The mobile health clinic visits workplaces and churches in London to improve healthcare access for men who are less likely to receive regular health checks, and are at risk of having cancer diagnosed late, when it is more difficult to treat.

The programme, developed by The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust, RM Partners West London Cancer Alliance, and The Institute of Cancer Research, London, focuses on men of working age who often have worse prostate cancer outcomes than older men, particularly those in manual jobs who often struggle to access healthcare. Black men, who have roughly double the risk of developing prostate cancer and an increased risk of death once diagnosed, are also being encouraged to get checked.

With over 50,000 cases each year, prostate cancer is the most common form of male cancer in the UK. It is also the third biggest cancer killer in the UK and in 20% of cases in England men only seek medical help when their cancer is at an advanced stage and too late to cure.



The pilot programme is investigating whether this care model can improve diagnosis and survival of men in these high-risk groups. If successful, the approach could be rolled out more widely across the NHS. The new service has been backed by former Olympian Linford Christie OBE.

The van was officially launched at an event during Prostate Cancer Awareness Month

“Guys, if you have the chance to book an appointment in the van, please go for it. It could save your life.”

Linford Christie OBE

Congratulations!

To the Brethren who will be Appointed, Re-appointed, or Promoted in Provincial Grand Rank at the Annual Meeting at Croydon on Saturday the 16th of March 2024



PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE

Provincial Grand Master	John Vaughan Christopher French	Percy 114
Deputy Provincial Grand Master	William Raymond Barr, P.G.J.D.	Warlingham 1321
Assistant Provincial Grand Master	Timothy Ford, P.G.J.D.	Richmond 808
Assistant Provincial Grand Master	William Agnew Caughie, P.G.J.D.	Kintore 333

PROVINCIAL ACTIVE OFFICERS

Provincial Grand:	Name	Lodge
Senior Warden	Mark Guzam	Percy 114
Junior Warden	Martin George Baker	Ditton 1857
Master Overseer	Mark Peter Donovan	Noel 505
Senior Overseer	Micheal Daniel Ellis	Richmond 808
Junior Overseer	Micheal Paul Fenech	St Andrews 806
Chaplain	Leslie Grout, P.A.G.St.B.	Curfew 1411
Treasurer	Raymond Michael Scott Seeley, P.G.J.O.	Noel 505
Registrar	John Carl Fitzgerald	Richmond 808
Secretary	David Thomas Clark	Kintore 333
Director of Ceremonies	Leslie Smith, P.G.Stwd.	Kintore 333
Almoner	John Thomas Coleman, P.G.S.D.	Percy 114
Charity Steward	Alan Brockwell	Manor of Bensham 1167
Inspector of Works	Alan George Whiddett	Kintore 333
Sword Bearer	James Cosby Cook	Woodgrange 1111
Deputy Grand Chaplain	Walter Joseph Maynard	Lingfield 1419
Deputy Grand Secretary	Garth Blanchard	Richmond 808
Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies	James Hill	Richmond 808
Senior Deacon	Nigel Graham	Percy 114
Senior Deacon	Nigel Feltham	Croydon 198
Senior Deacon	Michael Brian Howarth	Rose 534
Junior Deacon	Timothy Charles Ward	Hiram 13
Junior Deacon	Andrew Fox	Noel 505
Junior Deacon	Ian Holden	Kintore 333
Assistant Grand Secretary	Naresh Bhatt	Table Fellowship 1841
Assistant Grand Charity Steward	Desmond Martin Franklin	Stoneleigh 995
Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies	Andrew John Carr	St Andrews 806
Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies	Paulo Jose Campos-Vigouroux	Woodgrange 1111
Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies	Brett James Willingale	Collingwood 1669
Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies	Andrew Anthony Lynch	Pleydell Bouverie 955

PROVINCIAL ACTIVE OFFICERS (Cont.)

Provincial Grand:	Name	Lodge
Organist	Robert Anthony Soper	Comites Sigillorum 1352
Standard Bearer	Raymond Powell	H A Mann 1197
Assistant Grand Standard Bearer	Graham Edward Ellis	Richmond 808
Inner Guard	Garry David Lewis	Woodstock 1569
Steward	Ivan Daniel Larkin	Kintore 333
Steward	Mark Adrian Winchester	Weyside 442
Steward	Wayne Lucas	Richmond 808
Steward (MMM)	Dean Stewart	Croydon 198
Tyler	Christopher John Casselden	Pride of Surrey 1738

PROVINCIAL PROMOTIONS TO PAST RANK

Past Provincial Grand:	Name	Lodge
Senior Warden	Stephen Richard Jones P.G.J.D.	Noel 505
Junior Warden	Paul Andrew Wicking P.G.J.D.	Woodgrange 1111
Junior Warden	Robert Gregory Tuthill P.G.S.O.	Coulsdon Loyalty 1268
Junior Warden	Stephen James Wigmore	Ditton 1857
Junior Warden	John Stephen Charles Woodville P.G.J.D.	Richmond 808
Junior Warden	Stephen Frank Phipp	Cranleigh Centenary 1917
Junior Warden	Richard John Collinson	Weyside 442
Junior Warden	Stephen Guy Harvey	Warlingham 1321
Master Overseer	Jonathan Bruce Logan	Bolingbroke 451
Senior Overseer	Derek Martin Williamson	Noel 505
Senior Overseer	Roger Willingale	Collingwood 1669
Senior Overseer	Stephen Clark Jarvis	Weald of Surrey 1314
Senior Overseer	Robert Anthony Soper	Comites Sigillorum 1352
Junior Overseer	John Anthony Ward	St Andrew's 806
Junior Overseer	Wiktor Magne Molleskog	Coulsdon Loyalty 1268
Registrar	Adam Jonathan Spevack	Ditton 1857
Sword Bearer	Kenmore Henderson McIntosh	H A Mann 1197
Senior Deacon	Christopher John Casselden	Pride of Surrey 1738
Assistant Director of Ceremonies	Robert George Nye	Weyside 442

FIRST APPOINTMENTS TO PAST RANK

Past Provincial Grand:	Name	Lodge
Junior Warden	Alan James Carroll (S78)	Woodstock Grape & Grain 1569
Standard Bearer	Ralph Nabarro	Table Fellowship 1841
Assistant Standard Bearer	Ian Cairns	Hiram13

PROVINCIAL ROYAL ARK MARINER GRAND RANK

Name	Lodge	Name	Lodge
Alan George Whiddett	Kintore 333	Ian Holden	Sutton Surrey 450
Ellis Charles Butcher	Bolingbroke 451	Anthony Edward Henson	Noel 505
Stuart William Richard Smith	Noel 505	Andrew Anthony Lynch	Pleydell Bouverie 955
Desmond Martin Franklin	Stoneleigh 995	Stephen John Young	H A Mann 1197
Mike Charles Bushby	Coulsdon Loyalty 1268	Roger Gilbert Davis	Weald of Surrey 1314
John Edgar Marsh	Warlingham 1321	Michael William Sharpling	Comites Sigillorum 1352
Edward Francis Mulqueen	Bond of Friendship 1521	Brian Leslie Davies	Cranleigh Centenary 1917



Christmas Cheer



Well done to W.Bro. Nigel Feltham of Croydon Mark Lodge, Shelley and Jeff from Sutton Masonic Hall, and all Santa's little helpers for providing food hamper to several charities in the Sutton area.



Sutton Masonic Hall

17 December 2023 at 21:09 · 🌐



Today we packed up Hampers for Sutton Young carers and Sutton woman's centre and Sutton Home start and Leatherhead community fridge! Tomorrow deliveries will be made! Thank you to our little food bank team and to all that's helped and donated!





The Installation Meeting of Percy Mark Lodge



The start of a new chapter in the 150-year-old story of the Percy Mark Lodge opened yesterday at their Installation Meeting in December. Following a successful White Table organised by W.Bro. Clive Goode, the names of no less than four candidates for Advancement were read out for a special meeting which will take place on 28th February 2024, when two double Advancements will be performed. This is not all! The special meeting is necessary because at the next regular meeting an unprecedented triple Advancement will take place. Yes, Brethren, seven candidates, and it was kicked off by a White Table.



Think what could happen within the Mark Province if this could be replicated at other centres? Our Provincial Grand Secretary, W.Bro. David Clark, will send out details and all members of the Surrey Mark are cordially invited to either or both meetings.

The Royal Ark Mariner Lodge met before the Mark Lodge and even though it was a business meeting a completed application form for Elevation was handed to the Secretary from a Brother whose Mark Lodge meets in London.

The Mark Lodge was opened, and W.Bro. Bill Barr, Deputy Provincial Grand Master entered the Lodge, accompanied by Provincial Officers of the year, under the direction of W.Bro. Phil Young, his Director of Ceremonies.

A first-class Installation was carried out by W. Bro. Clive Goode and before he installed Bro. Stuart Hogarth, a Dispensation was read, as Bro. Stuart has not been through the Chair in the Craft.

W. Bro. Stuart carried out the investiture of his officers with aplomb, reminding those he appointed and invested that they were in for a very busy year.

W. Bro. Bill reported to the Lodge that W.Bro. Mike Neville had organised a Swimathon for 11th February 2024 at the Spectrum Centre in Guildford and that he would be taking to the water. Sponsorship forms have been sent to all Secretaries and all Brethren are welcome to seek sponsorship and to take part.



R.W. Bro John French, our Provincial Grand Master will, be in attendance and R.W. Bro. Ian Clark will also be there, diaries permitting in both cases.

W Bro. Bill also reported on the **Burn's Night on the 27th of January** (*contact W. Bro. John. Coleman*), the **Annual Meeting on the 16th March** (*details to be sent by the Provincial Secretary*), the **Officers' Mess Annual Meeting on Friday 17th of May** (*details from W. Bro. Tony Connor*) and the **Hog Roast**, which is usually the third Sunday in July (*W. Bro. Kevin Brennan will be sending out details shortly*).

Following the Successful Installation Meeting, the Brethren dined together in harmony, the Master's Song was sung to W.Bro. Stuart as he had not been through the Craft Chair, and over £250 was raised by the raffle and £155 sponsorship for W.Bro. Bill's Swim.

Our Provincial Grand Master was feeling very contented that his mother Lodge, Percy, was leading the charge for Advancements in the Province.

Photos by Bernie Greenwood



Another Candidate for Weald of Surrey Mark Lodge



On Thursday the 11th of January 2024 another Candidate was Advanced into the Weald of Surrey Lodge of Mark Master Masons in Sutton.

The afternoon started with a short business meeting of the Royal Ark Mariner Lodge where the Worshipful Commander, W.Bro. Michael Berwick, welcomed their Official Visitor, W.Bro. John Rollason, and W.Bro. Chris Eley, **R.A.M.G.R.**, P.A.Prov.G.M., who acted as Senior Warden.



After the regular business had been completed the Lodge was closed and the Temple re-arranged for the Mark meeting to follow.



The Mark Lodge was opened by the Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Michael Berwick, who again welcomed the Official Visitor, W.Bro. John Rollason, P.Prov.G.J.D, and V.W.Bro. Chris Eley, **P.G.J.O.**, P.A.Prov.G.M., who this time acted as Junior Warden.

W.Bro. Len Hillier, Prov.G.S.O., was declared as Worshipful Master, and W.Bro. David Lawrence, **P.A.G.D.C.**, P.Prov.G.J.W., as Treasurer for the ensuing year.

The main item on the agenda was to Advance Bro. Roger Stride a member of Light in Arabia Lodge No. 3870. The Worshipful Master invited W.Bro. Kevin Woodward, **P.A.G.D.C.**, P.Prov.G.S.W., to conduct the Ceremony of Advancement.

Bro. Roger was Advanced to the Honourable Degree of a Mark Master Mason in an excellent manner by W.Bro. Kevin, assisted by the Senior Deacon, W.Bro. David Lawrence, and the Junior Deacon, W.Bro. David Coombes, Prov.G.Swd.B.





Bro. Roger was afterwards congratulated by W.Bro. John and welcomed into the Order and the Mark Province of Surrey.

After the regular business of the Lodge had been completed and the customary photographs taken, the Brethren of The Weald of Surrey Lodge of Mark Master Masons and their guests retired to the bar – where we met some members of Nonesuch Park Lodge who were there to see a colleague Exalted into the Royal Arch.



The one with the two drinks, W.Bro. Jim Agnew, was Advanced into Richmond Lodge of Mark Master Masons a few months ago and has already signed up two members of his Lodge to be Advanced into Richmond Mark Lodge. Two brothers, one of whom V.W.Bro. Chris will be Raising nine days before he is Advanced into the Mark Degree.



If anyone would like to come along to Richmond Lodge of Mark Master Masons at Surbiton on Wednesday, the 31st of January to see two brothers Advanced together into the Lodge, then contact V.W.Bro. Chris on cw.eley@talktalk.net

Or if you cannot make that date, Percy Mark Lodge is conducting a double Advancement Ceremony on the 24th of February at Guildford at 1pm. Contact Graham Beer on grahambeer.gb@gmail.com





A Special Candidate for Surrey United Services Craft Lodge



Surrey United Services Lodge No 9999 had a packed meeting in November where they initiated Bro Talan Skeels-Piggins into Freemasonry. Talon is a former Royal Navy fighter controller and a paralympic skier who runs a charity called The Bike Experience.

The ceremony was carried out by the Worshipful Master W.Bro. Richard Matthews, Assistant Provincial Grand Master, assisted by various Lodge Officers including the Mark Provincial Grand Secretary, W.Bro. David Clark, who is also the Immediate Past Master of the Lodge. Present amongst the guests were the Past Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Ian Clark, and the Provincial Grand Director Ceremonies, W.Bro. Paul Wicking.



Why is this of interest to the Mark Degree? Well, Talon was a recipient of an award from the Mark Benevolent Fund to help buy a support vehicle to tow the trailer for his charity "The Bike Experience" that advises and teaches disabled people how to ride a motorcycle.

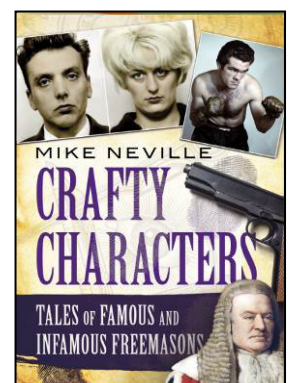
In March 2023 the recipients of awards from the Mark Benevolent Fund were invited to attend the Meeting of Mark Grand Lodge in Freemason's Hall where we received a presentation on the work of the Mark Benevolent Fund

Crafty Characters

W.Bro. Mike Neville's new book, "Crafty Characters: Tales of Famous and Infamous Freemasons" offers an enthralling dive into the dualistic nature of Freemasonry and its members who have shaped history.

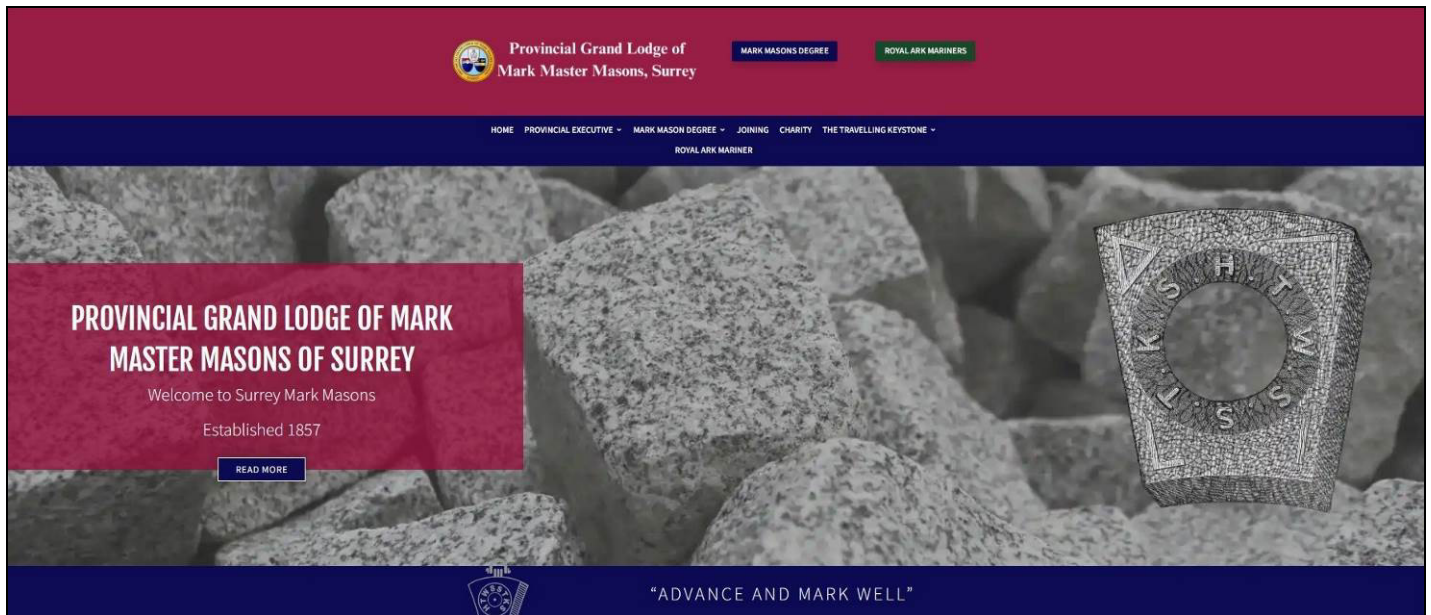
Spanning over three centuries, Mike's work encapsulates a spectrum of Masonic involvement in global affairs, ranging from the commendable to the nefarious. Inside are stories of the lives of famous and infamous Freemasons who have influenced the world for good *and* bad.

Published on the 17th of August 2023.



Have you looked at our new web site yet?

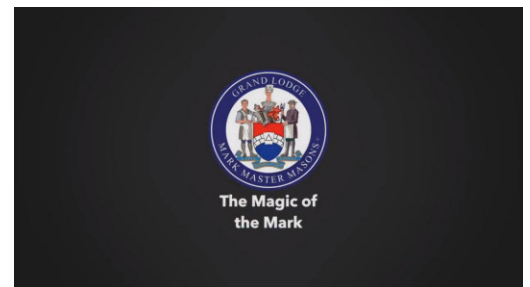
Over the past few months, a small team has been working on the development of a new web site for the Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Surrey



The web site can be found on [Provincial Grand Lodge of Surrey Mark Master Masons \(surreymarkmasons.com\)](http://www.surreymarkmasons.com)



The web site is still under development, but it will have details of the Provincial Executive and Provincial Officers of the year, back issues of the Surrey Keystone newsletter, useful documents such as Toast Lists, Application Forms and information on the Mark and RAM Degrees, as well as the Provincial Grand Officers Mess.



There are also useful tools you can use when talking to non Mark Masons about our Order, including the Magic of the Mark Video.

Where's Your Mark Tie?



W.Bro. Mike Neville of Bond of Friendship and Crystal Palace Mark Lodges was seen on television the other day – without either his Mark or his Allied Masonic Degrees tie.....

Mike is running another Swimathon in aid of our Provincial Grand Master's chosen charity – Van Man.

Details are on the back page.

One More Swimathon!



MARK PROVINCE OF SURREY ANNUAL CHARITY SWIM
SUNDAY 11th FEBRUARY 2024
GUILDFORD SPECTRUM LEISURE CENTRE
MEET at 10.30 for swim at 11.00
Medals for Children taking part!

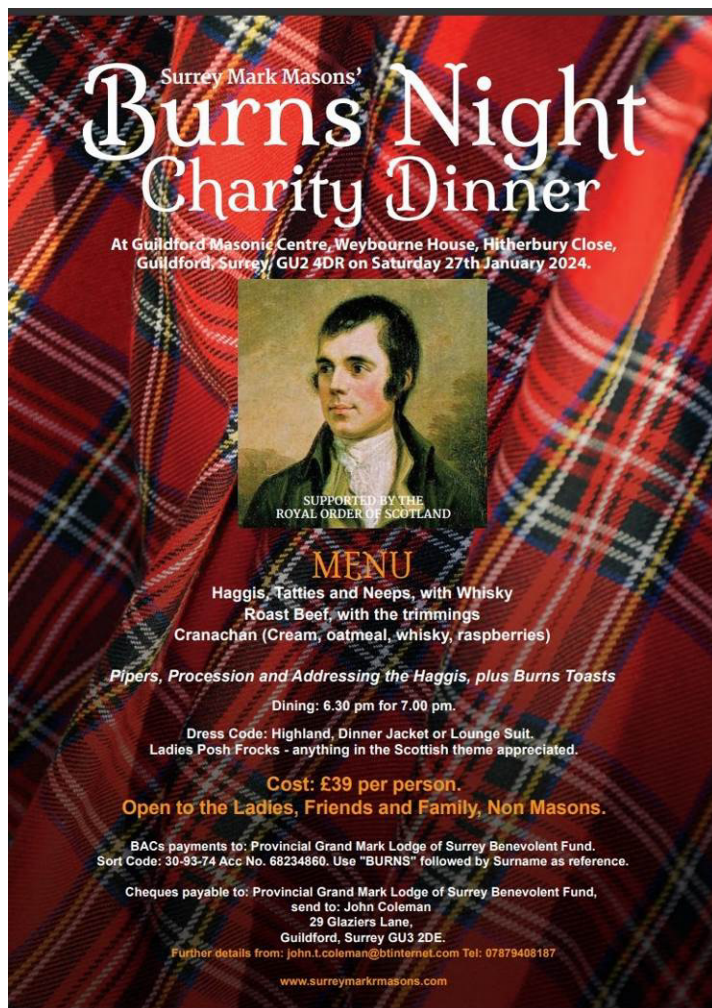
**WANTED BY THE PGM
SPONSORS!
SWIMMERS!
SPECTATORS!**



Join us for one more Swimathon at Guildford Spectrum Pool, GU1 1UP Sunday 11th of February 2024

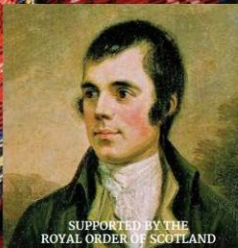
Meet at 10.30am for swim at 11am.

This year we are raising funds for our Provincial Grand Master's chosen charity, Van Man. *See front page for details.*



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.l.coleman@btinternet.com Tel: 07879408187
www.surreymarkmasons.com

W.Bro. Bill Barr has opened a Just Giving page for those who wish to donate to the Swimathon in this way. It is in the name of William Barr and in favour of The Prostate Project. The number is RCN 10785523.

Last chance to book in to the 2024 Burns Night Charity Dinner at Guildford on Saturday the 27th of January.

The 2024 Annual Meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge

The 2024 Annual Meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Surrey will be held on Saturday the 16th of March 2024 at the Croydon Masonic Hall.

The meeting will commence at 11.00 a.m. and will be followed by lunch at 1.00 p.m.

Brethren should be seated by 10.45.

