



A Candidate for Pride of Surrey RAM Lodge

In March, Pride of Surrey Lodge put out another call for support from Surrey Brethren to assist. This time with an Elevation Ceremony for Brother Asher Ansel James Baker who was Advanced at their Mark meeting in January. Once again many Brethren answered the call, including our Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. John V C French, several Provincial Officers of the Year, and W.Bro. Chris Eley, who again acted as Senior Deacon for the ceremony, seen here with the Junior Deacon, Bro. Nael Clark, and the Candidate, Brother Asher.



The afternoon started with a Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners which was opened by the acting Worshipful Commander, W.Bro. Chris Wates, who welcomed the Provincial Grand Master and the many visitors, thanking them for coming along to support the Pride of Surrey Lodge.



The afternoon started with the Royal Ark Mariner meeting.

The Lodge was opened by the acting Worshipful Commander, W.Bro. Chris Wates, who welcomed everyone, especially our Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. John French, and the many visitors, thanking them for coming along to support the Pride of Surrey Lodges.

The main item on the agenda was to Elevate Brother Asher Ansel James Baker who had been advanced at their last meeting in January.

The Ceremony was conducted by the Worshipful Commander and his Officers with the assistance of our Provincial Grand Master and several visiting Brethren.

W.Bro. Chris Eley acted as Senior Deacon, which was very special as he had acted as Senior Deacon for Bro. Asher's advancement two months earlier.

Afterwards Bro. Asher was welcomed in the Lodge by the Worshipful Commander, and into the Order and the Province of Surrey by our Provincial Grand Master.

The Lodge was closed and the Temple arranged for the Mark meeting that followed.





The Mark Lodge was opened by the acting Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Chris Wates, who again welcomed the Provincial Grand Master and the many visitors.

A Eulogy was given in memory of V.W.Bro. Ray Horton, **P.G.M.O.**, who passed away in January.

The main item on the agenda was to install Bro. Mark Carter as Worshipful Master. The ceremony was conducted by W.Bro. Chris Wates, assisted by V.W.Bro. Chris Eley who gave the Address to the Master, W.Bro. Bob Gardner, who who gave the Address to the Wardens; W.Bro. Peter Kipps who gave the Address to the Overseers; and R.W.Bro. John French who gave the Address to the Brethren.



W.Bro. Mark was congratulated by our Provincial Grand Master who wished him an enjoyable year in office, and informed him of his challenge, to get at least one candidate into the Order during his year as Worshipful Master.

The Lodge was closed and we retired to the bar for refreshments before sitting down to an enjoyable meal together at the Surbiton Masonic Hall.



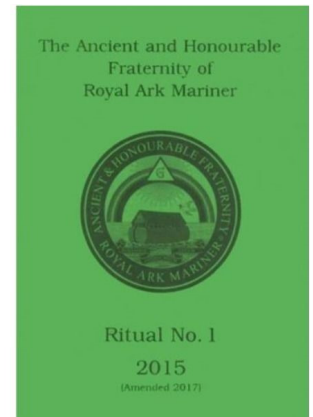
The Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariners



The Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariners is controlled by a body styled 'The Grand Master's Royal Ark Council', which is under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons.

The Order has two ceremonies: the Degree of Royal Ark Mariner, by which a brother is admitted (or elevated) to the Order, and the ceremony of Installation by which the Commander Elect is installed in the Chair of a Royal Ark Mariner Lodge.

The ceremony of Elevation is a delightful one with many unique features. It is based on the story of Noah and his Ark and teaches that the virtuous and industrious will prosper.



The Flood is a story of cleansing and rebirth, where the wicked and impenitent perished in the deluge while the faithful and the good, represented by Noah and his family, were saved to repopulate the earth.

The Installation ceremony is equally special and quite different from that of other orders.

In common with other Masonic orders, the origin of the Royal Ark Mariner degree is not certain.

There are several references to the Noah and his Ark in early manuscripts, including Anderson's constitutions of 1723.

Actual degrees with a Noachite theme emerged later, for example Patriarch Noachite or Prussian Knight in the 1760s, now the 21st Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Rite.

However, the earliest authenticated record of a Royal Ark Mariner Degree being worked in England, in a form that we would recognise, is 1790.

Several attempts at establishing a "Grand Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners" came to nothing. Eventually, in 1871, the Order was taken under the wing of the Mark Grand Lodge. Prior to this the degree was worked in Craft and Mark Lodges and elsewhere.

Today the Order is thriving. In the Mark Province of Surrey, nearly all the Mark Lodges have a Royal Ark Mariner Lodge attached and most meet on the same day.

Interested brethren will learn more about this splendid Order once they become a Mark Master Mason, which is an essential qualification.

By Michael F Barnes



HA Mann Lodge

Even at my advanced age, in my lower middle eighties, I pick up new gems from Freemasonry. My visit to Sutton was the first in some four years. I was so out of my depth I drove around the car park area twice and had to advise my daughter that I would call her back later.



I was not too keen on the twenty-minute walk through the church yard from Gibson Road and I really should not have asked that Irishman the way!!! The Masonic Hall is a splendid building and full of very interesting, framed pictures on the inside.



Our Royal Ark Mariner meeting was ably directed from the side due to the oft met situation of a need to invite brethren to take on unexpected roles.

Our respects were duly paid to a much-respected former member who had passed to the Grand Lodge above.

There is a worry that we are low on numbers and therefore it was gratifying to note that there were TWO candidates. How refreshing. We further learned from our Assistant Provincial Grand Master that numbers are holding good in our Order.

The usual end of term meeting concluded with the Worshipful Commander staying in the chair for a second term so that the new men could progress through the offices in an acceptable manner. I took the opportunity of having a brief conversation with our two new men. They thoroughly enjoyed their part in this meeting.



At the Mark meeting, our A.Prov.G.M., W. Bro. John Massey, was formerly introduced and welcomed and he in turn presented his escorting team.

Once again there was a candidate who was duly advanced in a sincere but relaxed manner by the WM. That was not all, in that W.Bro. Michael B., who was now the Commander in Royal Ark Mariners, was then placed in the chair of HA Mann Mark. He will have some work to deal with and we wished him the best of luck. He will, I am sure, be well supported by the team around him. Officers were duly appointed and invested in good spirit and the usual addresses were given. It was a very pleasant affair, and the Lodge looks in good heart. At the conclusion of the meeting, we repaired to the bar.

Our bar staff were very attentive, and we were quickly provided with liquid sustenance with the festive board following soon afterwards. The food served was of an acceptable

standard and I had the good fortune to be seated with the Treasurer and a good friend who was a pastry chef. A very interesting conversation ensued. Part of visiting must surely be not only the meeting but the festive board where one meets friends and comes in to contact with men for varying backgrounds. I had a most enjoyable evening at Sutton Masonic Hall, wended my way back to my car, and enjoyed a relaxed return to Farnham.

Thanks to Michael Fenech

Percy Lodge

A visit to one of my favourite Lodges always sparkles up my day. You know the story of Percy Lodge, so I won't go on.

We arrived and parked easily, my chauffeur and me. We made our entrance, went to the changing area and then to the bar where we had tea and coffee. The meeting started on time, and we were greeted by the Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Stuart Hogarth, who had invited us as his guests. The usual faces were there, and we exchanged pleasantries. A lovely atmosphere as ever.

I noticed a bank of Mark Coins too which aroused my interest as, in days gone by, I had been keen on coinage. A display had been arranged and there were spares for the ceremony of Advancement which was about to start.

The Worshipful Master is so practised at leading, and he carried out three advancements in a very favourable Mark manner. He was so relaxed which helped the candidates. They enjoyed the whole event which was very well orchestrated. I mentioned, in a previous article, that I always learn even at my advanced age, and this was certainly the case at Percy Lodge.



The three candidates were given the usual literature and then the coins. These were special prepared by W.Bro. Darren Mantell from lead material and would be stamped with their own Mark signature. That was such a nice touch and particular to this terrific lodge.



The candidates were of stature and unusual in that one was a Horse Syndicate Manager and another a Doctor in a rare element of medical study. I had some very interesting talks with them both after the meeting. The whole ceremony and the rest of the agenda items were presented in such an impressive manner. I am not a keen Saturday morning Mark Man, preferring to sit and watch sport at home. However, I have to say, I enjoyed my visit to this lodge.



It was complemented by a fine meal rounded off with a decent dessert. I am not a sticky pudding person and prefer a fruit salad and ice cream which was organised without any fuss.



This was a very well attended Lodge meeting, exceptionally well run and a joy to attend on a Saturday morning. The coins sparked my interest, the brethren, who were advanced, were great to have discussions with and the venue is of a very high standard.

Thanks to Michael Fenech

Cranleigh Centenary Lodge

A saunter through the Surrey hills of some fifteen or so miles took me to the very attractive village of Cranleigh. Ok, so I took the wrong turning to the car park but eventually found my way. I hadn't been for some four years but the greeting more than made up for my error. By now I am used to seeing familiar faces and this was certainly the case at this energetic gathering. Several good acquaintances were there and soon made me feel at home.



The Mark meeting then followed, and it was unusual in that Royal Ark Mariners was the main event with Mark taking somewhat of a second place in the evening's proceedings. I was accompanying W.Bro. Bill Caughie as one of my last duties as an active officer.

As is often the case we started proceedings with a Royal Ark Mariners meeting. I must mention that this is a Lodge with character and small in number, so it was with interest that I noted the proceedings.

The usual assistance of guests was a positive factor in the carrying out of this part of our evening. It was very pleasing to see that there were two items on the agenda that indicated that all would be well with this group of mariners in that W.Bro. James Stoddart was a joining member, and he was enthusiastically welcomed into the Lodge.

The other encouraging sign was the Elevation of Bro. Kevin Lockwood. This was a very interesting ceremony in that the whole event was full of meaning and the satisfaction was evident on the face of the new man. Our Commander executed the ceremony with good intent and kept us all involved throughout.

The interval was very civilised with hot refreshments being served with a chance to exchange pleasantries before the Mark Meeting.



Needless to say, the oft present W.Bro. Martin Baker was there, and Brett Willingale was our ADC. After our customary introduction by the Assistant Provincial Grand Master, we settled down to the Mark Degree lecture ably delivered by W.Bro Colin Clark. I always listen carefully and once again learned something new during the presentation. There were some seventeen men in attendance, and I had a thoroughly good time at both meetings.

The unusual feature at Cranleigh, for those who have never been, is their Festive Board. It was a pleasant five minutes' walk to a local hostelry which, by good fortune is run by one of the Mark Members. Our dining area was a separate and beautifully furnished private room looking out onto the high street. Drinks were acquired, our meals were served by a very attentive staff to whom slight changes in meal provision were easily met and provided. It was a very relaxed, convivial end to a very pleasant evening.

The walk back to our cars was fine and a little fresh but my return was in the excellent company of V.W.Bro. Bill and W.Bro. Brett. Thank you Cranleigh for your meetings, hospitality, good friendship and good food!

Thanks to Michael Fenech

What's going on in the Community?

Nigel, Richard and I recently delivered Easter Eggs to the Sutton Tuition and Reintegration Service (STARS).



STARS is a medical pupil referral unit for children and young people. They provide education and a 12-week intervention for pupils aged 5-16 years who are unable to attend their mainstream school.

Wherever possible the aim is to reintegrate pupils into mainstream provision, either into a school, or into post-16 provision. They work closely with other agencies such as: the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS); Sutton Borough School Attendance Service (BSAS) as well as local schools, colleges and training centres.



This multi-agency approach enables them to provide the best education to meet the needs of all their pupils.

The Easter Eggs were gratefully received by the Headteacher and Deputy, and we know they will be faithfully applied...

Later that afternoon the three of us met up again at Sutton for a Rose Croix meeting....



W.Bro. James Sarson from Cranleigh Centenary Lodge was delighted to attend the Flint House Police Rehabilitation Centre to present them with a cheque for £455.00, which he raised through donations to his recent participation in the Mark Swimathon at Guildford.

Flint House is a charity funded by donations from those in the police service and their families. It is through these generous donations that they can help and heal over 3,500 serving and retired police officers each year, providing physical rehabilitation and mental health support.

Flint House offers a safe, relaxed environment for serving and retired officers. Everyone is treated with care and respect (*no ranks, no hierarchy*) by their caring and experienced practitioners. Whether a new recruit or an experienced officer, there's a good chance officers will need their services at some point.



A Special MBF Award

At a recent meeting of Weyside Lodge of MMM during an Official Visit by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master things took a turn into the unknown when the Worshipful Master was asked to Call-off the Lodge.



Amidst a flurry of "What's happening?", Mrs Alison Rawlinson was admitted to the Lodge room, to be presented with her MBF Grand Patron award. While she was visibly touched, and very surprised, the Lodge rightly applauded her achievement.

Alison has been making marmalade, which has been handed out in exchange for donations to the MBF. Autumn chutney should be available this year, too. Orders can be placed via Graham Rawlinson.



Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance



In April, W.Bro. Nigel Feltham of Croydon Lodge of Mark Master Masons visited the Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance Charity at Redhill - his chosen charity for the year, as the Worshipful Master of the Mid Surrey Masters Lodge at Sutton.



Please keep an eye out for his Just Giving Page, coming soon as he goes for Medal No. 10 at Nijmegen in July.



The Air Ambulance Charity Kent Surrey Sussex (KSS), where save lives when every second counts.

They are a team of skilled, sector-leading experts responding to over 3,300 incidents annually across Kent, Surrey, and Sussex, and they we can reach any location within 30 minutes.

Their helicopters are flying emergency rooms. Whether it's on the road, beach, or park, they get there, fast. They bring specialised doctors, paramedics and treatment to those who need it most. From open heart surgery to emergency anaesthesia, they don't stop. 24/7, 365 days a year.



A visit to Essex



VW.Bro. Ray Seeley and W.Bro. David Lawrence attended the Essex Installed Mark Master Lodge No. 1044 and Enthroned Commanders Lodge No. 1044 meetings held at Saxon Hall, Southend on the 18th of March.

They were warmly welcomed to the meeting by some Essex Mark men, who also happen to also be Surrey Mark men

Photo courtesy of W.Bro. Andy Hardie, Prov.G.S.D. (in both Surrey and Essex).

Mike Neville's Walks and Talks

A lodge has asked for a "Jack the Ripper - Jack the Mason?" walk around Whitechapel on Saturday the 24th of May at 7pm. They need some extra numbers.

Mike promises a fun and engaging evening. Can you solve the most infamous crime in history? Non-Masons welcome. Pub stops and a curry at the end - if you wish.

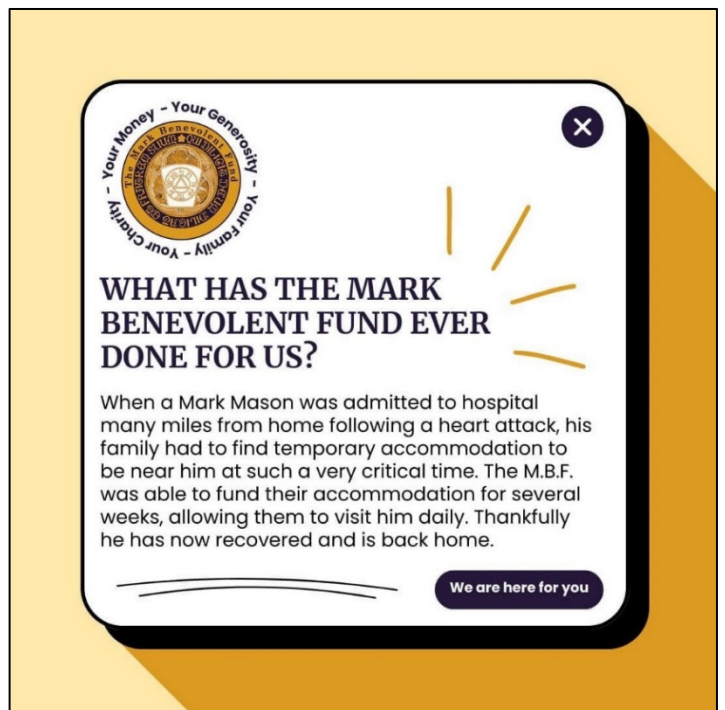
Email Mike via the website or rmikeneville@aol.com if you wish to attend.

Details of walk are also on website. <https://www.mike-neville-walks-and-talks.co.uk/masonic-walks>



Home-Start Sutton

The next batch of Easter Eggs from the Sutton Masonic Hall have been delivered to Home-Start Sutton for their Easter Egg Hunt.



Mark Provincial Quiz Night

Friday 2nd May 2025

7.30pm

Nutfield Masonic Centre

Who has had the most spouses?

Liz Taylor had 7

Micky Rooney has had 8

Zsa Zsa Gabor has had 9

Think it is King Solomon or Mike Neville lol



Your Quiz Master & Host

Mike Neville

MrMikeNeville@aol.com

Including Fish & Chips for £20

Teams of 4-8 & Lodge Sponsorship available for £100





The Surrey Mark

Charity Golf Day

Monday 2nd June 2025

**Chobham Golf Club, Chobham Road,
Knaphill, Woking, Surrey GU21 2TZ**

Office: 01276 855584

Pro Shop: 01276 855748



To raise funds for The Mark Benevolent Fund

RETURN COMPLETED FORM

By post to:

Nigel Graham: 2 John Ades Close, Ash, Aldershot, Hampshire GU12 6EL

By email to: n.graham123@btinternet.com M: 07976 546355

COST: Full Day - £70.00 | Meal Only - £30.00

Cheques made payable to:
Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Surrey Benevolent Fund

Payment by Transfer: Please use your name as a reference.
Acc Name: Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Surrey Benevolent Fund
Sort Code: 30-93-74 **Account No:** 02602788



MARK MASTER MASONS INTER PROVINCE CRICKET MATCH

Surrey-Sussex-Kent-Middlesex

10am
Start



• FOOD ON SITE

• BEER TENT

• CHARITY
RAFFLE

• STALLS

SUNDAY
13th JULY 2025

The Warren
Croydon Road
Hayes
Bromley
Kent BR2 7AL

A GREAT FAMILY DAY OUT!

ENTRY BY PROGRAMME Contact:

W.Bro. David Lawrence David@backtolife.co.uk

Surrey Mark Cha Di Da 2025

Double Room
£129

B & B (optional)

£63
pp



DINNER

Arrival
6.30pm
for 7pm

Carriages
Midnight

Dance Party

SATURDAY 25th OCTOBER
Reigate Manor Hotel - Reigate Hill

Dancing: Ricky Zalex (West End Stage Singer) + Alan Lovell (Swinging Blue Jeans)

3 Course Meal • Charity Raffle • Party Surprises

Contact: W.Bro Alan Brockwell - e: brockers01@icloud.com

t: 01737 557997 m: 07868 657276

See website for details - booking form - menu choices