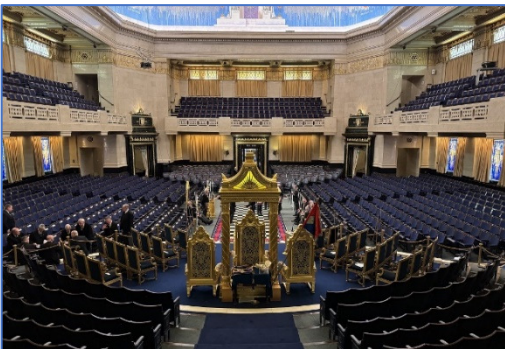




Mark Grand Lodge



On Tuesday the 11th of March 2025, Mark Brethren from across the Constitution arrived at Freemasons' Hall for the March Quarterly Communication of Mark Grand Lodge. M.W.Bro. John Herbert Prizeman, Pro Grand Master, was the Presiding Officer, accompanied by R.W.Bro. Francis Charles Spencer, Dep.G.M., and R.W.Bro. Prof. Denovan Keith Wilson, A.G.M.



Before the meeting, representatives from the Charities supported by the Mark Benevolent Fund were invited to a reception and an opportunity to meet each other, as well as members of the Board of Trustees and other Mark brethren.

There were representatives from the Secondary Emergency Services and Humanitarian Aid Sectors, from the Healthcare, Hospice, and Cancer Care Sectors, Local Community Focus Groups and the Youth Sector, Disability Support Services.



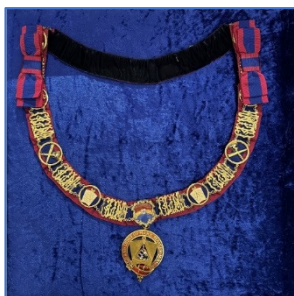
After refreshments they were invited into the Grand Temple to look round before the meeting of Grand Lodge commenced.





The meeting was opened, and the Memoriam to Brethren called to higher service was marked. Following further items of business, it was then time to Elect the Most Worshipful Grand Master. R.W.Bro. Bill Divall, P.G.J.W., President of the General Board, rose to propose the re-election of Most Worshipful Brother His Royal Highness Prince Michael of Kent, Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order, as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and its Districts and Lodges Overseas.

This was seconded by W.Bro. Mocky Khan and greeted with acclamation. The Proclamation by the Grand Director of Ceremonies followed. R.W.Bro. James Hilditch, Past Provincial Grand Master for Oxfordshire, was then re-elected as Grand Treasurer.



With the other regular business completed, it was time to call-off Grand Lodge as we embarked on what has become the highlight of the March meeting, a review of the work of the Mark Benevolent Fund over the past twelve months and to welcome, in a series of processions, our VIP members, guests and representatives from the charities and worthy causes.

The Trustees of the Mark Benevolent Fund entered Grand Lodge, including the President, R.W.Bro. Archie Torrance, carrying a cushion bearing the Portal jewel, reminding us of the ever-present legend of the MBF's Founder, Reverend Canon George Raymond Portal "he gives twice who gives promptly".





Representatives from this year's M.B.F. Festival Province of Oxfordshire, members of the Secondary Emergency Services and Humanitarian Aid Sectors, representatives from the Healthcare, Hospice, and Cancer Care Sectors, Local Community Focus Groups and the Youth Sector, Disability Support Services Representatives.

We were then shown a series of videos highlighting the work carried out by the M.B.F. in conjunction with these various groups.

Interspersed between the videos, R.W.Bro. Ian Wright, Prov.G.M. for Oxfordshire was invited to talk about his Province's 2025 M.B.F. Festival and R.W.Bro. Archie Torrance updated Brethren and guests on the success of the MBF over the past 12 months and how to go about securing petitions and grants for funding of worthy causes, and the new Grand Master's Keystone Fund Bursary Scheme.



The President of the M.B.F., R.W.Bro. Archie Torrance, outlined the recent grants made by the M.B.F., which totalled £1,303,064.

To round off the presentations, the Pro Grand Master thanked the representatives for attending and invited them to retire, which they did to loud acclamation. Grand Lodge was then called on.



M.W.Bro. John Prizeman gave his Pro Grand Master's address and concluded by welcoming guests from other Constitutions, Brethren from overseas, and Heads of Orders.

He then thanked W.Bro. Darren Coleman-Heald, **P.G.S.D.**, Charities Manager, and the rest of the team at M.M.H. who had put so much work into the charitable side of the day's meeting, as well as the G.D.C. and his team for the ceremonial arrangements.



The Brethren and our guests from the charities then gathered in great numbers at the Grand Connaught Rooms to share in the meal together.

The buzz around the dining hall paid testament to the thoroughly enjoyable time Brethren had experienced during this annual celebration of the fantastic achievements of the Mark Benevolent Fund.

