



Mark Grand Lodge

It was a great pleasure to be back at Freemasons' Hall on Tuesday the 9th for the September Communication of Mark Grand Lodge. The ground floor of the Grand Temple at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, was filled almost to capacity, with recipients, supporters, and Provincial and District representatives, a great achievement considering the transport chaos outside.

As is the usual practice, the Surrey delegation met up in Wetherspoons in Holburn for refreshments before going across to Freemasons Hall.

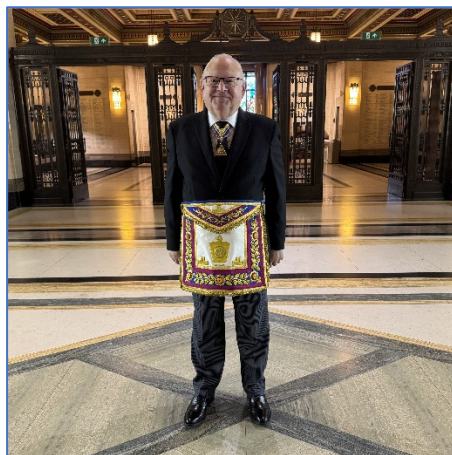




The meeting was opened by the Presiding Officer, R.W.Bro. Keith Emmerson, flanked by R.W.Bro. Francis Charles Spencer and R.W.Bro. Prof. Denovan Keith Wilson.

With items of business of Grand Lodge having been transacted, the President of the Mark Benevolent Fund, R.W.Bro. Ian Clark, rose to give a precis of Grants made by the MBF since June. The Presiding Officer called upon W.Bro. Mocky Khan, Prov.G.Swd.B. for Oxfordshire, who then gave notice that at the next communication of Grand Lodge in March 2026, he will propose the re-election of our Grand Master, HRH Prince Michael of Kent, GCVO.

The Presiding Officer then proceeded to oblige and install as Deputy Grand Master R.W.Bro. Prof. Denovan Keith Wilson ,who was proclaimed and saluted. The Presiding Officer then continued to oblige and install as Assistant Grand Master R.W.Bro. Peter David Williams, who was proclaimed and saluted.



The recipients of promotion were then invested, finishing with W.Bro. Jeffrey William Hawkins, P.G.J.O., just shy of his hundredth birthday
 Congratulations to the Surrey Brethren who were promoted today: V.W.Bro. William Raymond Barr, P.G.J.O.; W.Bro. Perri Ahmet, P.G.J.O. (through Kent); W.Bro. Jack Love, P.G.S.D.; and W.Bro. Leslie Smith, P.G.J.D.



Following which, the Presiding Officer, R.W.Bro. Keith Emmerson, addressed the meeting, extending the personal greetings from our Grand Master and Pro Grand Master.

In rounding off his address he thanked the staff at Mark Masons' Hall for their efforts in administering to the Order and in preparing for the day's meeting, and the Grand Director of Ceremonies and his team for the ceremonial arrangements of the day.

The Grand Secretary then rose to highlight some items of other business. After a few housekeeping notes, Grand Lodge was closed and the Brethren departed to refreshment.

The Grand Secretary thanks all those who came along to attend this meeting and support Grand Lodge, and congratulates all those who received Promotion. He says that your attendance makes these meetings very special occasions for everyone.



A group of Right Worshipful Brethren



Outside the door of Grand Lodge



Some of the Surrey delegation





Five Surrey Provincial Grand Directors of Ceremonies





Provincial Thanksgiving Service at Guildford Cathedral

The Companion Orders were well represented at the Annual Order of Divine Service held on Sunday the 21st of September 2025. The service was led by the Dean, The Very Reverend Bob Cooper, and the Officiating Officers were W.Bro. Chris Eley, Provincial Grand Chaplain, and W.Bro. Ivan Dias-Cooke, Deputy Provincial Grand Chaplain.



After the processions into the Cathedral, The Very Reverend Bob Cooper, welcomed the Brethren, their families and friends. We sang some well-known hymns led by the Provincial Choir and listened to readings from the Provincial Craft and Royal Arch Executive. W.Bro. Chris Eley offered the Bidding Prayer, and the Intercessional Prayers were led by W.Bro. Chris Eley and W.Bro. Ivan Dias-Cooke. So nice to see W.Bro. Harry Winter, P.Prov.G.S.W. Thanks, Steve for looking after Harry.



Very Rev. Bob Cooper offered the final Prayer and Blessings, before the Clergy, the RW Provincial Grand Master, and honoured guests retired to the Recessional Organ Voluntary played by the Organist, Bro. James Furness-Roe.

We were then invited across to the Seasons Café for refreshments and a chance to catch up with old friends.

We have always had a special relationship with Guildford Cathedral. The middle window bearing the Masonic Province of Surrey crest was donated by Surrey Freemasons at the construction of the Cathedral.

At the end of the Service R.W.Bro. Nick Burger, Provincial Grand Master / ME Grand Superintendent, gave the Closing Address where he thanked the Dean and everyone who helped to make the day such a success.



A busy afternoon at Croydon

In January 2025 I had the pleasure of acting as Senior Deacon at Pride of Surrey Mark Lodge when Bro. Asher Baker was Advanced. I then acted as Senior Deacon when he was Elevated into the Pride of Surrey Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners.

The Secretary, W.Bro. Chris Casselden, thought it would be a nice touch if I presented Bro. Asher's Grand Lodge Certificates at their September meeting at Croydon.



I said I would be delighted to do so but on the same afternoon I had my KTP meeting of Holy Trinity Tabernacle, at Croydon in the adjoining Temple. Between us Chris and I developed a cunning plan.....

The Royal Ark Mariner Lodge was opened at 3.30 pm and after W.Bro. Paul Haycock, R.A.M.G.R., had been inducted I joined the meeting to present Bro. Asher with his Royal Ark Mariner Grand Lodge Certificate. I then left the meeting to set up the Temple for the KTP meeting, with grateful assistance from Alan Brockwell.

The Mark Lodge was opened at 5.00 pm, with me acting as Junior Warden at the last minute.

As soon as the Lodge was opened, I was invited to present a Mark Grand Lodge Certificate to Bro. Asher. It was nice to be able to do this as Bro. Asher is a very keen Mason.

The Mark meeting ended with an Advancement Ceremony for Bro. Michael Capitelli a Master Mason of Athene Lodge.

Altogether a very successful and enjoyable afternoon.



I then went next door to my Tabernacle meeting where we were honoured by a visit from our new Grand Superintendent, District 15, Right Eminent Knight Priest Peter Vossler.



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

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See website for details - booking form - menu choices