



## A Message from our Deputy Provincial Grand Master

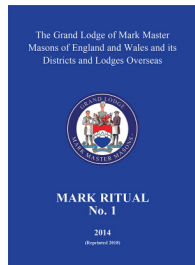
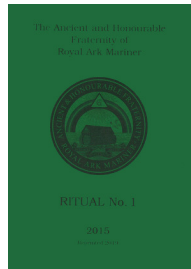


Welcome to the seventh edition of the Surrey Keystone. I am sure you would like to join me in congratulating W.Bro. Tony Callister, W.Bro. Brian Cotton and W.Bro. Steve Jones who have been appointed to R.A.M.G.R. all of whom are excellent Royal Ark Mariners and worthy of this accolade.

By the time that you read this, things may have changed yet again albeit for the moment the key topic apart from hoping you are all keeping safe and well and staying in contact with each other is the

“Rule of Six”. I have attended 2 meetings so far both of which were very enjoyable, albeit rather strange with so few in attendance.

Having dusted off the ritual books I was reminded of two lovely pieces of ritual which have forever stuck in my memory. In the RAM degree you may recall “*Those in the highest sphere of life.....the most exalted position*” and in the Mark degree that final piece “*In conclusion.....ultimately became the headstone of the building*” They are beautiful words and well worth a read every now and then.



This week I spoke to our longest standing member, W.Bro. Leslie Elliot, who was advanced into Weyside Lodge No 442 and who is currently being cared for at Shannon Court. I’m not sure if he

remembered me too well but he was being well cared for and really appreciated the call. A close second to W.Bro. Leslie is W.Bro. John Shorto who was advanced into Hiram No 13 and whom I remember very well from Percy Lodge, which is when I first met him. He was in great form and is also coping very well. I then thought that I would look at the other end of the list of members and spoke to Bro. Gary Evans who was advanced into Kintore No 333 just prior to the lock down, who again was well and looking forward to finding out a little bit more about our wonderful order.

Zoom meetings around the Province have been an excellent way for Lodges to stay in touch, even though my first recollection of Zoom was an ice lolly which I used to love, so please keep Zooming! As it is so important to stay in touch with each other and whilst we live in this internet world which is truly wonderful. I find that a phone conversation is always very well received and appreciated....it’s good to talk brethren!

I am so pleased to have been given the opportunity to write something in this edition, especially as I’m better known as a talker not a typer (new word in the dictionary)!

Best wishes to you and your loved ones, take care, and keep well.

**Kind regards  
John**

## The Battle of Britain 80th Anniversary

2020 marks the 80th anniversary of the Battle of Britain which took place between July and October 1940.



The 15<sup>th</sup> September 1940 was officially named Battle of Britain Day as it was the day when RAF Fighter Command claimed what proved to be a decisive victory over the German Luftwaffe.

## Bonus Ball Update

### Congratulations to the September Bonus Ball winners:



Warlingham Mark Lodge, Collingwood RAM Lodge, Miguel Godfrey of Welcome Lodge, Ted Knight of Croham Hurst Lodge, Warlingham Mark Lodge, Mark Guzam of Percy Lodge, Alan Brockwell of Manor of Bensham Lodge, David Grimmer of Stoneleigh Lodge, John Coleman of Percy Lodge, Roger Short of Ditton Lodge, Alan Whiddett of Kintore Lodge, Steve Guzy of Collingwood Lodge.

To purchase a ball go to:

<http://www.markmastermasons.org.uk/bonus-ball.html>

## Nominate a Surrey Charity

**A charity appeal with a difference - we want to give money away!**

We all know about the big donations; ambulances to St John, a lifeboat for the RNLI, mobile chemotherapy units for Hope for Tomorrow operated by the NHS, but over the years the MBF has also supported many smaller, local charities.

Most recently £8,456 was donated to the Cherry Tree Respite Care Home in Guildford and £7,291 to Lifelites. See <http://www.markmastermasons.org.uk/festival-news-0029.html>

Now is your time to nominate your charity for a grant. Simply fill out the form emailed out in early October and send it to [comms@markmastermasons.org.uk](mailto:comms@markmastermasons.org.uk) Your nominated charity will be assessed and submitted to the MBF for consideration

## The Square and Compasses

**While spending a few days in Dorset, I came across this pub in Worth Matravers near Swanage. Despite its name it has no connection to Freemasonry according to the landlord.**

It was built in 1776 and originally named The Sloop and had connections to smuggling. In 1830 the landlord changed the name to Square and Compass as he had been a stonemason.

If you happen to be down that way, it’s well worth a visit.



**David Warren, St Andrews Lodge of MMM No 806**

Who will be the first person to send in a photo of a Keystone pub sign? Ed.

## Grand Rank in the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariners

Congratulations to the brethren of the Surrey Mark Province who will be receiving Royal Ark Mariner Grand Rank in December.

W.Bro. Tony Callister of Percy Lodge No 114.

W.Bro. Brian Cotton of Manor of Bensham Lodge No 1167

W.Bro. Steve Jones of Noel Lodge No 505.

We will have to wait and see if we are able to get together at the RAM Annual Assembly at Freemasons Hall on the 8<sup>th</sup> December.



### 300 Miles to Go!!

W.Bro. Simon McCarthy is out on the roads of Surrey and Hampshire in support of the Surrey Mark 2022 Festival. His target is 2022 miles by the end of October 2020.

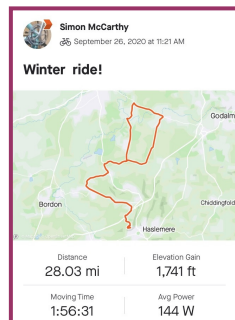


Over the past few months, we have been following Simon's bike ride via his Strava app.

Simon has raised over **£1,400** on his JustGiving page so far towards his target of £2,500. Lodges have also additionally sponsored Simon directly through the MBF.

Simon would welcome any donation, no matter how small, from individuals and Lodges.

*It's easy to donate via Simon's JustGiving page by visiting:*  
[www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/simonmccarthyrideforlife](http://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/simonmccarthyrideforlife)



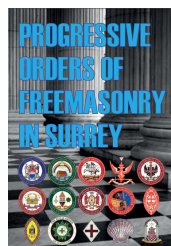
## Progressive Orders of Freemasonry in Surrey

Have you ever wondered about all the other Orders in Masonry?

If you have then this is the booklet for you. Here you have information on all the Orders in Surrey beyond the Craft and Holy Royal Arch.

You can view and download the booklet from the web site:

<http://www.markmastermasons.org.uk/publications.html>



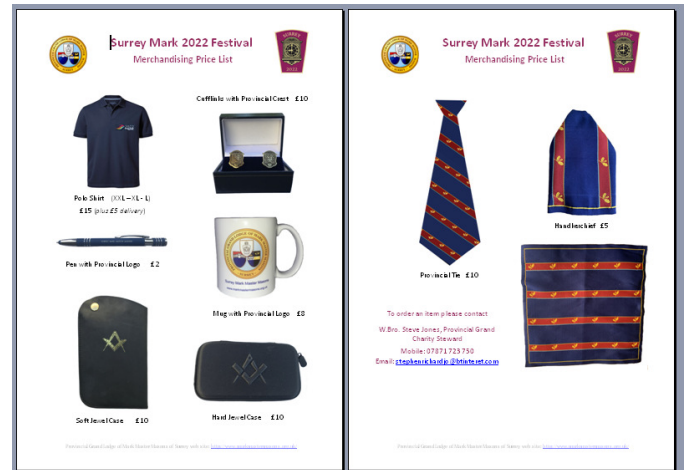
### Did you know that?

Iceland has no army and is recognised as the world's most peaceful country.

The colour which we see when we close our eyes is called eigengrau which is different from black.

## Festival Merchandise Catalogue

Take a look at the new 2022 Festival Merchandise Catalogue, containing pictures and prices for all the Festival merchandise, from the Polo Shirt, Cufflinks and Jewel Cases to the Provincial Mug, Pen, Tie and Handkerchief.



To order any item please contact W.Bro. Steve Jones, Provincial Grand Charity Steward - Mobile: 07871 723750

Email: [stephenrichardjo@btinternet.com](mailto:stephenrichardjo@btinternet.com)

All profits go to the 2022 Festival.

To view or download the catalogue go to:

<http://www.markmastermasons.org.uk/news-0410.html>

## Weyside Mark Lodge

W.Bro. John French called into Weyside Mark Lodge the other day. As only four members were able to attend John ended up acting as Worshipful Commander in the Royal Ark Mariners.



Barrie Selway acted as Worshipful Master in the Mark meeting.

## New and Second-hand Regalia

At a time of ever increasing costs, brethren are invited to take advantage of the opportunity to purchase new Mark and RAM regalia at competitive prices.



This is open to all members who are joining the Order, installed as a Worshipful Master or a Worshipful Commander, or receiving appointment or promotion in Provincial Grand Rank or Grand Rank.

Just contact Steve Jones, Provincial Grand Charity Steward.

**For every order placed the Province receives back 10% from the supplier which is donated to**

**the Mark Benevolent Fund towards our 2022 Festival.**

To view or download the brochure go to:

<http://www.markmastermasons.org.uk/regalia.html>

## Meetings under the Rule of Six

On the 13<sup>th</sup> September 2020 Mark Masons Hall advised us of the changes to the rules relating to social gatherings in England and what this means for Masonic meetings.

Whilst larger meetings in Covid –secure venues are permitted by the new laws it would send the wrong message to our members and the public if meetings of over six people took place at this time. Therefore with immediate effect meetings in England of all Units belonging to the Orders administered from Mark Masons' Hall were restricted to no more than six. Since that date a number of Masonic units have met to conduct business that cannot be done as a Virtual Business Meeting.

### Southern Cross Council in the Allied Masonic Degrees

The first AMD Council meeting in Surrey since the change in Government and MMH guidelines took place at the Southern Cross Council No XIII at Guildford on the 16<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

What also made it special was that we had a Candidate for the Degree of St Lawrence the Martyr, W.Bro. John Massey, the Chair of our 2022 Surrey Mark Festival Committee.



The Council was opened by the Acting Worshipful Master, VW.Bro. Michael Barnes our Past Deputy Provincial Grand Master, who welcomed the Officers and thanked them for attending the meeting. A ballot was taken for three joining members, as well as the Candidate, John Massey. This proved in their favour and John was Introduced, Received and Admitted as a Brother of St Lawrence in an excellent manner by the Worshipful Master and his small band of Officers.

Sadly due to numbers the Council was unable to be honoured by the presence of the District Grand Prefect, RW.Bro. John French, our Deputy Provincial Grand Master. However he sent everyone his best wishes and arranged for a bottle of fine red wine to be waiting for us at the bar to thank everyone for their efforts. RW.Bro. John may not have been with us in person, but he was with us in spirit... After the meeting everyone said how good it was to get together again, which proved that even under the current restrictions a meaningful ceremony can still be conducted.

### Croydon Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners

The first meeting of the Croydon Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners No 198 since the change in Government and MMH guidelines was held at Croydon Masonic Hall on the 17<sup>th</sup> September.

The Lodge was opened by the Worshipful Commander, W.Bro. John Fitzgerald. Bro. Paul Jenner was elected as Commander for the ensuing year, the Lodge accounts were presented and, as there was no other business, the Lodge was closed. It was a short but very enjoyable meeting.



### Camberley Lodge meets up again

On Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September, Camberley Lodges of Royal Ark Mariners and of Mark Master Masons met for the first time since February. Due to the restrictions in place, attendance was limited.



In the Royal Ark Mariner Degree, the Worshipful Commander, W.Bro. Jimmy Hill, was proclaimed for a further term as Worshipful Commander. In the Mark Degree, W.Bro. Neil Egginton presided as Worshipful Master and Bro. Jimmy Hill was elected as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year.

The highlight of the meeting was a socially distanced presentation of a Grand Lodge Certificate to Bro. John Wright. This was expertly given by VW.Bro. Brian Berry, P.G.J.O., who had advanced Bro. John at an earlier meeting on behalf of the Worshipful Master.

Camberley Lodge would like to acknowledge the efforts of The Agincourt, Camberley, in preparing the venue.

*Article and photos by Bro. Andrew Banks*



## The Magnificent Seven

The Installation meetings of the Surrey Enthroned Commanders and Surrey Installed Mark Masters Lodges took place at Croydon on the 24<sup>th</sup> September under the new Rule of Six.

The Surrey Enthroned Commanders Lodge was opened by the Worshipful Commander, W.Bro. Chris Cradock, **RAMGR**, who welcomed the five other officers and thanked them for attending the meeting.

After the Lodge administration had been completed the Dispensation was read to elect W.Bro. Chris Eley, **RAMGR**, **PAProvGM**, as Commander of the Lodge.

W.Bro. Chris Eley was installed into the Chair of the Lodge by W.Bro. Chris Cradock in a most sincere manner. The Officers of the Lodge were then appointed and those present were invested.



The new Worshipful Commander gave a short talk entitled 'The Cowan', a word originating from Scottish operative masonry of long ago which denoted 'dry-dyker' who did not use mortar or prepared stone in his trade.



As he did not use mortar or prepared stones in his trade, he was looked upon as an inferior type of artisan by the operative mason, and as such was denied admittance to a

mason's "Lodge", which in those days probably meant a group of operative masons engaged in some building project.

After the RAM Lodge was closed the Surrey Installed Mark Masters Lodge was opened by the Worshipful Master, VW.Bro. Brian Berry, **PGJO**, **PAProvGM** (Middx).



After the Dispensation had been read VW.Bro. Brian was Proclaimed as the Worshipful Master of the Surrey Installed Mark Masters Lodge for a further year. The Officers of the Lodge were then appointed and those present were invested.

After two very enjoyable meetings we all retired to the bar at Surbiton for socially distanced refreshments.

## Surrey Mark Masons in Other Orders

### The Order of the Scarlet Cord

Due to the Suspension of Masonic Activities the second meeting of the Warlingham Consistory took place at Nutfield in September, 11 months after the Consistory was Consecrated. Present was the President, R.Dist.Comp. Michael Barnes, Past Provincial Grand Summus, our Past Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and five other members.



The Consistory was opened by the President who welcomed the Officers and thanked them for attending the meeting. After the Dispensation was read by the Recorder R.Dist.Comp. Michael Barnes was elected as President for the ensuing year; and Dist.Comp. Nigel Thomson, Deputy Provincial Grand Summus, was elected as Treasurer.

R.Dist.Comp. Michael Barnes was then proclaimed as President for the ensuing year by the Director of Ceremonies, Dist.Comp. Ian Clark, our Provincial Grand Master. The Officers of the Consistory were appointed and those present were invested.

A ballot was taken for four candidates for Admission to the First Grade of the Order at the next meeting of the Consistory. This proved in their favour. Em.Comp. Chris Eley was then elected as President for the year 2021-2022.

After the Consistory was closed the Temple was re-arranged for a meeting of Warlingham Conclave in the Order of the Secret Monitor.

### The Order of the Secret Monitor

Following the Scarlet Cord meeting our Editor, Chris Eley, was installed as Supreme Ruler of Warlingham Conclave No 291 in the Order of the Secret Monitor at Nutfield.



The Ceremony was conducted with his usual aplomb by R.Wy. Bro. Michael Barnes, Past Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler, our Past Deputy Provincial Grand Master. Assisting him in the team of six were R.Wy.Bro. Colin Beerling, the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler; Wy.Bro. Ian Clark, our Provincial Grand Master; Wy.Bro. Bob Tuthill, our webmaster; and Wy.Bro. Alastair Richardson, our AProvGSec.