

# PASSWORD



## Pomfret Lodge No 360 Celebrates 200 Years

SEE PAGES 20 & 21

**SPRING  
2020  
EDITION...**

**PGM's  
Message**

SEE PAGES 4&5

**2024 Festival  
Update**

SEE PAGES 14- 15

**News From Around  
The Province**

SEE PAGES 24 to 32

[www.northants-huntsmasons.org.uk](http://www.northants-huntsmasons.org.uk)

# From the Team

## Provincial Communications Officer & Committee Chairman

Peter Robinson

07711 110667

e: [prov-comms-officer@northants-huntsmaons.org.uk](mailto:prov-comms-officer@northants-huntsmaons.org.uk)



Dear Readers,

Whilst this edition looks back over the wonderful 200 year history of our oldest Lodge, Pomfret No.360, at the same time, we also seek to look forward in all aspects of our daily Masonic advancement. My thanks go to members of the Committee and to all who have made contributions in this respect – in particular, to Craig Bunday for his work as Editor.

I would also add my special thanks to Nigel Dickens, who is stepping down after 3 years of service in Northampton. Please join with me in welcoming to the team, Ian Nelson who has taken over from Nigel, James Prince, working under the 'Light Blue' banner and Adrian Cleave, assisting Simon Key in his role as Webmaster.

Please let your Local Communications Officer know of any new item of interest – it is only by doing so that we can be aware and have news of it published in this magazine, the Provincial website, via social media or wider publications.

With thanks, yours fraternally,

**Peter**

This and previous PASSWORD editions are available at [www.northants-huntsmaons.org.uk](http://www.northants-huntsmaons.org.uk)

## Communications Committee Contacts

<b>Simon Key</b>	07976 354768	Provincial Webmaster
<b>John Fergusson</b>	07768 096301	Provincial Membership & Social Media Officer
<b>William Diggins</b>	01604 584213	Provincial Grand Secretary (Designate)
<b>Adrian Cleave</b>	07790 907920	Assistant Webmaster
<b>Local Communication Officers</b>		
<b>Mike Sheppard</b>	01327 705600	Brackley, Daventry & Towcester (South West)
<b>Jack Summerfield</b>	07886 768189	Corby
<b>Simon Perry</b>	01480 830257	Huntingdon, Ramsey, St Ives & St Neots
<b>Alex Willis</b>	07733 081558	Kettering & Thrapston
<b>Mike Howells</b>	07715 448203	Northampton Lodges
<b>Ian Nelson</b>	07977 571799	Northampton Lodges
<b>Craig Bunday</b>	07771 538661	Peterborough & Oundle
<b>Stuart Morgan</b>	07593 083324	Stamford
<b>Trevor Cook</b>	07914 941579	Wellingborough & Rushden
<b>James Prince</b>	07768 647940	NHNYMC Communications Officer

The distribution of this magazine includes members, former members, partners and others with whom we have regular contact. We follow strict procedures in the storage and protection of all personal information and there will be no disclosure to third parties without consent. Should you not wish to receive a copy of Password in the future, please advise Directory Editor Eric Ellison at Freemason's Hall, Sheaf Close, Northampton. NN5 7UL or email [directory-editor@northants-huntsmaons.org.uk](mailto:directory-editor@northants-huntsmaons.org.uk). The editors and those involved in the publication of Password cannot be held responsible for mistakes in copy or content submitted by third parties.



## Province of Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire Demonstration Group

The Provincial Demonstration Team are keen to hear from any budding Thespians who would like to take part in the various plays which are performed to Lodges both within this Province and in other parts of the country.

Anyone wishing to learn more about how they could be involved can contact WBro Roger Allanson at [rmallanson@gmail.com](mailto:rmallanson@gmail.com) and he would be happy to provide more information about the Team.



## Notable Events

Go to 'Notable Events' on the Provincial Website for further information on these and many other forthcoming events

St Johns Lodge No. 3972

NYNHMC

N2HQ 2024 MCF Festival Walk

Provincial Grand Lodge

Three Counties Lodge No.9278

Installed Masters Lodge No.3422

Cytringan Lodge No.4048

100 year Anniversary Meeting

`Light Blues` AGM

Northampton to Freemasons Hall, London

AGM & Appointments to Active Ranks

Promotions to Past Ranks

Speaker – W.Bro Mike Neville

100 year Anniversary Meeting

Sheaf Close – 17th February 2020

Sheaf Close - 8th March 2020

29th March to 3rd April 2020

Sheaf Close 21st May 2020

Sheaf Close 27th May 2020

Corby - new date - 29th May 2020

Kettering 3rd June 2020

# Message From The Provincial Grand Master

**Brethren,**

As is usual at this time of the year, I give a resume of where our Province currently rests.

During 2019 we have been celebrating 200 years of existence for our senior Lodge - Pomfret Lodge No 360 which meets in Northampton. This was, of course, the first time that this Province has carried out such festivities so we had no template to work from. I must congratulate all members of Pomfret who worked so hard to make a success of the year. The year commenced with a Banner Rededication and then a meeting to which all ninety-three progeny Lodges were invited. I recall that about sixty-seven were in attendance and we had a wonderful occasion with Lodge Banners being paraded. The highlight, however, was the meeting in November when the official celebrations took place. These occasions are handled by Grand Lodge and we were honoured with the presence of RW.Bro Jonathon Spence, the Deputy Grand Master. He was accompanied by his Director of Ceremonies and also VW.Bro Graham Redman, Deputy Grand Secretary. They have all

contacted me since the event to say how much they enjoyed their visit to our Province. Every member of Pomfret worked so hard to achieve the success and the Lodge was confidently and capably led by the Master, W.Bro Mark Charteress. The research work and historical presentations made by W Bro Nigel Morley were a delight to listen too. Well done Pomfret!

December saw the Installation of a new Inspector General in the Order of the Ancient and Accepted Rite – Rose Croix – when Very Illustrious Brother John Booth took over the reins from Very Illustrious Brother Tony Avery. Tony served the office for fifteen years in a wonderful manner and will, I am sure, enjoy his retirement. We all wish John Booth, a member of the Abington Craft Lodge, every success in his new role.

The hard work that everyone has been exerting to maintain and increase our overall numbers is meeting with success. In the last year, every month has shown a year on year increase and this is something of which, we



should be very proud. We are benefitting from the work of W.Bro Davis Watson and his retention/resignation committee. A number of members who were planning to leave have now been persuaded to stay, if not in their original Lodge, then by joining a different one.

We have also, as I trust you are all aware, developed the New and Young Masons Club – ‘The Light Blues’. From tentative beginnings this club has now been developed in all parts of the Province. The membership numbers have rocketed beyond two hundred and all are enjoying the events. These include curry evenings, brewery trips, ten pin bowling, quizzes, Lodge visits, and many more events. Because family members are invited to attend many of these events, it helps enormously in assisting families to understand what the member has joined. The



principal advantage of the club is that new members from many different Lodges and centres, are able to meet with, and identify with, others at the same early stage of a Masonic career. It is interesting to note that in 2016 we lost between 20 and 25% of our Initiates within three years of joining. In 2017 this had reduced to between 6 and 10% and in 2018 it further reduced to between 4 and 6%. I am confident that now that the 'Light Blues Club' is gaining momentum, that loss figure will reduce even further.

Our Province continues to be the best in uniting all of the Orders that meet within our boundaries. Every head of an Order and his deputy is invited to join the Three Counties Lodge. This only meets twice each year but serves as a most important vehicle to transmit our thoughts and ideas through a united channel. We have relatively new leaders in several of the Orders. Most Excellent Grand Superintendent Jim

Boughton for the Royal Arch (Jim previously served as an Assistant Provincial Grand Master), Right Illustrious Companion Martin Wilson for Royal & Select Masters and RW.Bro Bob Stokes for the Mark Master Masons, are all relatively new appointments and all of them, together with every other Head of an Order in the Province, agree that for them to be successful, we need to have a strong Craft. I am most grateful for the support that they give to me and my team.



Appointments and promotions for next season have now being finalised. I congratulate all those who are receiving preferment. Perhaps the most vital change will be in the Provincial Office. W.Bro Mike Caseman-Jones (pictured above) will stand

down after five very successful years as Provincial Grand Secretary. His successor will be W.Bro William Diggins. He has served as Assistant Secretary for five years and has contributed much to the success of our Province. The wonderful events that we enjoyed during the Tercentenary were organised by him and I have every confidence that he will continue the outstanding line of Secretaries enjoyed by the Province over many years.

Brethren, enjoy the remainder of this busy and exciting season. I look forward to meeting with you on my visits around the Province and, of course, at the Provincial meetings in May.

God bless you all.

RW.Bro Max Bayes  
Provincial Grand Master

**"The hard work that everyone is exerting to maintain and increase our numbers is meeting with success"**



## Provincial Secretariat changes and CoM Award

The Provincial Grand Master, RW.Bro Max Bayes has been pleased to confirm the appointment of W.Bro William Diggins as Provincial Grand Secretary to be made at the next meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge in May 2020. William will replace W.Bro Mike Caseman- Jones, who is standing down after five successful years in office. W.Bro William was



initiated into the Lodge of St George in 1996, becoming its Worshipful Master in 2005 and now Charity Steward. He has served as Provincial Assistant Secretary for the past five years, contributing much including taking charge of the organisation of the Provincial events we enjoyed to celebrate the Tercentenary in 2017. William also serves as a

member of a number of Provincial and Charity committees.

On the promotion of W.Bro William Diggins in May, W.Bro Gilbert Williamson is to be appointed Assistant Provincial Grand Secretary.



W.Bro Gilbert was initiated into England's Centre Lodge in 1981, becoming its Worshipful Master in 2008 and now serving as Treasurer. Gilbert, who retired from an Accountancy and Banking career, is currently our Provincial Junior Grand Warden and is also a member of the Northants and Hunts Lodge of Installed Masters.

At the Old Northamptonian Lodge meeting in January, the Provincial Grand Master

made a surprise presentation of his Certificate of Merit to W.Bro Eric Ellison, PPSGW. W.Bro Eric was initiated in the Province of Leicestershire and Rutland in 1987, before moving to this Province in 2001 joining Abington Lodge. There he served as Worshipful Master in 2006 and is currently Senior



Warden in Old Northamptonian Lodge. Amongst many roles undertaken within the Provincial office, Eric served as Provincial Assistant Secretary for 3 years from 2010 and is the Editor of the Masonic Year Book. The Provincial Grand Master said, 'This is a well deserved award in recognition of your services and commitment to the Provincial office over the past 12 years.'

## W.Bro Bob Stokes installed at Three Counties Lodge

The Three Counties Lodge No. 9278 hosted their Installation meeting on the 28th of October 2019 at Sheaf Close, Northampton. It was a very memorable and special evening which saw W.Bro Bob Stokes, Provincial Grand Master of the Mark Degree in Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire, installed into the Chair of King Solomon by W.Bro Tom Quinn, Provincial Grand Master of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Bedfordshire & Northamptonshire in the Royal Order of Scotland.

W.Bro Bob was initiated into Peterborough and Counties Lodge in 1990

before becoming a founder of the Richard Sandbach Lodge of Research in 1995 and a member of the Palmer Lodge of Provincial Grand Stewards in 2001. He is perhaps best known in the Craft as a Deputy Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies from 2009 until 2013.

Amongst those present at the meeting were The Provincial Grand Master, RW.Bro Max Bayes, together with his Provincial Executive team and a large number of Grand Lodge and active Provincial Officers.

Unsurprisingly, many members of the Mark

Degree were present including the Past Provincial Grand Master and Deputy Provincial Grand Master of that degree, W.Bro George Bonham PAGDC and W.Bro Brian Elliott PAGDC, who were appointed Junior and Senior Warden respectively.

After the Installation ceremony, the Provincial Grand Master gave his traditional half-yearly address during which he announced that W.Bro Jim Boughton, the current Grand Superintendent in the Holy Royal Arch in the Province, would be installed as the next Worshipful Master of The Three Counties Lodge in October 2020.



**L-R W.Bros Brian Elliott, Bob Stokes, Tom Quinn and George Bonham**

## Provincial Grand Master installed into his Eighth Chair

The meeting of the Towcestrian Lodge on 25th of September 2019 was special not only because it was the Lodge's 150th meeting, but also because it saw the Installation of The Provincial Grand Master, RW.Bro Max Bayes, as Master of the Lodge - the eighth time the PGM had been installed into the Chair of King Solomon. The others being Northants & Hunts Lodge of Installed Masters No. 3422, John Pyel Lodge No. 5195, Lodge of St James No. 6838, The

Palmer Lodge of Provincial Grand Stewards No. 8995, Three Counties Lodge No. 9278, Wilavestone Lodge No. 9829, and Salcey Forest Lodge No. 9854. Over 100-brethren were in attendance, including a significant number of Grand Officers, active Provincial Officers, and members of the PGM's other lodges.

The official visitor for the evening was the Assistant Provincial Grand Master, W.Bro

Mark Constant JGD, accompanied by W.Bro Roger Blason, Assistant Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies.

The ritual in the lodge room was of high standard with the installing Master, W.Bro Mike Scott, doing a fine job of installing the PGM, who in turn invested his officers in his usual exemplary manner.

A full report appears on the Provincial Website.



**Towcestrian Lodge New Master, RW.Bro Max Bayes, together with W.Bro Mark Constant, W.Bro Roger Blason, and members of the Lodge**



## Provincial Grand Mentor

Duncan Childs

07771 816655

e: [pgmentor@northants-huntsmasons.org.uk](mailto:pgmentor@northants-huntsmasons.org.uk)



**In this edition,** I wish to highlight some of the basic principals underlying the work of a Mentor. Your Lodge Mentoring Co-ordinator may call upon you to become an assistant Mentor. It is also highly likely you will propose or second a new candidate during the course of your Masonic career, so these notes will help you.

I have therefore set out below some I hope useful advice which is also contained in the Provincial Mentoring and Education Guidance Notes.

**It is the Mentor's** first responsibility to ensure the new member is made to feel welcome and that he understands what is required of him.

**The Mentor must** be enthusiastic about Freemasonry and keen to take on the role, which may require some time to provide guidance to candidates and new members.

**The Mentor's role** cannot start too soon. Ideally, he should be involved from the time of the interview (or Court of Honour).

**Some thought** may be needed prior to initiation to make sure the candidate is aware of the time, place, dress code, costs and requirement to

make a short response to his Toast.

Towards the end of the initiation ceremony, it is desirable for a Mentor to be formally introduced in Open Lodge to the candidate.

**After initiation,** the Mentor should be willing to sit with the new Mason in Lodge and probably retire from the Lodge with the new Mason for ceremonies above his existing rank. This can also be useful to answer the many questions an inquisitive Mason is bound to ask.

**The Mentor should** be aware of the resources available via Solomon, readily available Provincial documentation and the Lodge's own mentoring material.

**It is recommended** the Mentor should meet the new Masons on a number of occasions following the various degree ceremonies, to explain the next immediate steps and the various paths towards joining the Light Blues club, to take on ritual work and in due course holding various offices within the Lodge.

**The new Mason** should be appraised of the existence and progress towards joining the Holy Royal Arch to complete his third degree ceremony, this should be the first non- craft

step into other orders.

**The Mentor should guide** the new Masons to joining a Lodge of Instruction and encourage visiting to other Lodges, particularly to see ceremonies for which he was recently a candidate.

A mentoring programme and your support should lead to new members fully understanding and taking great enjoyment from their Freemasonry.

Finally, the Mentor should keep a close track of the new members attendance at Lodge meetings and social events. If there are periods of absence, these should be carefully followed up in a timely manner to resolve any difficulties or misunderstandings that may occur.

The Mentor is also able to rely on the support of senior members within the Lodge and Provincial Mentoring support and recovery policies, which are now well established.



[www.solomon.ugle.org.uk](http://www.solomon.ugle.org.uk)

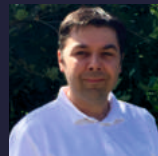
# News From Provincial Grand Lodge

## Provincial Membership Officer

John Fergusson

07768 096301

e: [pmo@northants-huntsmaons.org.uk](mailto:pmo@northants-huntsmaons.org.uk)



## Discover Freemasonry...

Towards the end of 2019, UGLE formally launched Discover Freemasonry which is a well put together brochure that really provides a great platform to introduce Freemasonry to those around us; neighbours, friends, work colleagues, family members etc. It is in the process of being customised for our Province with the plan being to print it over the next month or so (there will also be an online version). I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those members who sent me an e-mail with their thoughts on what Freemasonry means to them as well as their experiences. I will be using these comments in our version of Discover Freemasonry.

In addition to this, we launched the 'So, You Want To Know More About Freemasonry'

cards which are also proving popular. These

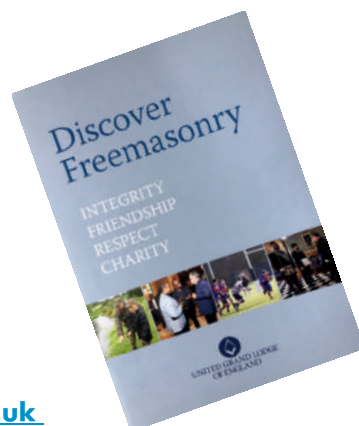


are an excellent card complete with QR Code to pass to someone who may like to find out more and it conveniently fits in your jacket pocket.

Another way to introduce a gentleman to Freemasonry is through our well established Information Evenings which have been run in Northampton, Towcester, Wellingborough so far with Rushden and Huntingdon already in the calendar and Kettering in the early

stages of being planned for later in the year. At these evenings, the insights from Freemasons into why they joined, what they enjoy or what Freemasonry means to them leaves a very positive impression on the gentlemen attending.

Enabling others to discover Freemasonry is something that we can all do to allow our wonderful fraternity to thrive in the 21st Century. I will continue to find new and innovative ways for you to do this and thank you for your continued support.



[www.solomon.ugle.org.uk](http://www.solomon.ugle.org.uk)

## Provincial Grand Almoner

Gerry McLaughlin

07850 468059 (Kevin Mackie - 07990 963462)

e: [pgalmoner@northants-huntsmasons.org.uk](mailto:pgalmoner@northants-huntsmasons.org.uk)



It is with a sense of regret, mixed with hope and thanks for the warmth and understanding shown to me, that I will soon be moving from the Province. It's true, you never have to spend too long with me to get a flavour of the love I feel for the people of Northants and Hunts. Everywhere you look nowadays there are examples of the fantastic support our Brethren freely give to our masonic families and communities. Between March and December 2019, Provincial and MCF Grants total £160k. This represents only the financial value of support given. However, the daily activity of our Lodge Almoners, Local Support Officers and others, goes way beyond in terms of the positive impacts on the wellbeing and happiness they bring to our communities locally.

On the shoulders of our predecessors, we have built and expanded a network of support in this Province that is the envy of many others. Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire has become, and will continue to

be, a home for good practice and innovation. When first working with Bill Wright some 5 years ago, I realised this role was not about just sitting behind a desk. It is more about the wider experience of the wonderful people you meet and the privilege of working with colleagues, who willingly give of themselves to offer a helping hand to others, for which I am eternally grateful.

By way of introduction to my successor (designate) W.Bro Kevin Mackie, here is some further information. Kevin was initiated in the Province of Worcestershire in 2003 and became a joining member of Medeshamstede Lodge in this Province in 2011. He has been WM of three Craft Lodges and is also a member of Chapter.



He was given the role of active ProvGStwd in 2017 and was also asked to take part in the tercentenary meeting at Grand Lodge in the same year. He has been Almoner of Medeshamstede Lodge No. 6104 for the past three years and was appointed as Assistant Provincial Grand Almoner earlier this year.

W.Bro Kevin said, 'I am very much looking forward to my formal appointment as Provincial Grand Almoner in May 2020. My aim is to continue the superb work of my predecessor, W.Bro Gerry McLaughlin, to whom I give my grateful thanks'.

As a registered Nurse and Consultant in medical education, Kevin hopes to be able to put his professional background to good use and further enhance the role.



# News From Provincial Grand Lodge



**'Giving Time' is a joint initiative** between the masonic provinces of Northamptonshire & Huntingdonshire and Leicestershire & Rutland.

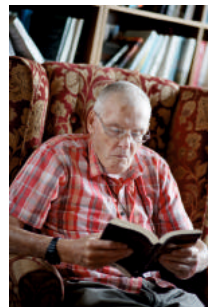
The objective of the initiative is for individual Freemasons, groups of Freemasons (which can include their families), or Lodges to each give one or two hours to visit the RMBI's care home at Devonshire Court, Oadby, Leicester, with the aim of providing entertaining, interesting or active interludes for the care residents. These could be:

- Maybe facilitating a baking, chocolate making, birthday card or other craft session.
- Being good with computers, perhaps giving a basic skills session to help those who would like to use technology better for things like keeping in touch with friends and family.
- Talks about your professional life which are often of interest to residents.
- Supporting residents with small gardening or DIY projects (e.g. painting a bench, tending a border or planting up pots).

**We are also looking** for help with the creation of "Masonic Life Reminiscence Boxes" to include small items of regalia, interesting festive board or ladys' night menu's, short masonic stories on local well known Masons and Lodge

with Bernie Steer at Devonshire Court, by email [bsteer@rmbi.org.uk](mailto:bsteer@rmbi.org.uk) or by phone on 0116 271 4171. She will book you into the "Giving Time Bank", and provide any other support to the "giving timers". Regular monthly updates will be fed back to the Provinces via their respective Provincial Grand Almoners, and shared with you,

The dates and times of entertaining, interesting or active interludes will be publicised to residents and staff via notice board and the "Devonshire Cream" monthly in-house magazine.



- Providing entertainment if you are a singer, musician, magician or gifted with other entertainment abilities.
- Giving talks on holidays or travels and photographs from home and the more far flung destinations.

Histories. The box or boxes will have pride of place in the new library/reading room.

**"Booking and Banking Time"** Making your offers and booking your date and time slot is easily done. Get in touch





# Joy's Story

I am happier and more content today. Certainly, happier than I was just over a year ago when my life seemed like it was falling apart. Thanks to the Freemasons, I have come a long way. I have a safe comfortable home, a beautiful baby and a loving family around me. My journey out of that dreadful part of my life started when, at my lowest ebb, I noticed one of the Masonic charity fridge magnets in my mum and dad's kitchen. I pleaded with my dad to call them to see if there was any way they could help me. The charity contacted a local Freemason who came to see me straight away.

Looking back, without the assistance from the Freemasons I would have had no one who knew how to represent and support me. I needed somewhere to live and was pregnant, after having to flee my previous address. I also had arrears from outstanding bills as a result of the abuse and coercive control of my ex-partner. I had also lost a previous well-paid job due to the fact my ex-partner was making threats to the people in my workplace. I had to leave for their safety and my own. My workplace was where I had been confident and had self-respect, but this was taken away and I found myself in a hostel, no longer able to fund a home for myself or put down a deposit either.

I was accompanied by a Freemason to a meeting at the local Council, who offered support and to speak on my behalf. My experience had made me withdrawn and unable to trust others. I think I had become isolated and found it difficult to speak up for myself due to the abusive relationship I had been in. I felt I was disadvantaged by the Authorities who administer support due to my situation, but with the masonic backing I felt they gave me the confidence to carry on. I had come very close to giving up after making numerous phone calls to different housing officials, who assuring me they could not help.

Without the help of the Masons I would probably have continued living in a refuge/hostels as my parents did not have enough room for me to live with them and did not have any extra funds to help me either.

When I was given the keys to my new home, I felt like I was being offered the opportunity to rebuild a life for my unborn child and myself, where we could make a safe and loving home and we can look forward to enjoying life together. I attended a course run by Women's Aid that has helped a great deal as it made me aware that the things that happened to me were not my fault and I could avoid getting into similar relationships in the future.

Also, the Masonic charity and local Province stepped in with help to make my home comfortable and secure, this gave me a sense of hope.

All I wanted was for my baby to grow up knowing he had a caring family environment that supports you when times are tough.

As a single mother, I must be able to survive on the limited money, but the Masonic charity helps, and this has allowed me to start a course at the Open University. I intend to use the qualification to get back into work when the baby is a little older.

I never really appreciated what my Dad being a Freemason was all about, but my experience has taught me that it's more about helping others and family coming first.

Thanks to him and all the other Freemasons, I have a new life and hope for the future.



**Names have been changed in this article**

**[www.mcf.org.uk](http://www.mcf.org.uk)**

# News From Provincial Grand Lodge

## Provincial Grand Charity Steward

Gerry Crawford

07768 096301

e: [pgchstwd@northants-huntsmaisons.org.uk](mailto:pgchstwd@northants-huntsmaisons.org.uk)

Twitter: @GerryPrGChStwd



Our charitable support for both local charities and the 2024 Festival has not let up since the last edition of Password.

After a tremendous start for our 2024 MCF Festival, almost two years ago, inevitably, the flow of donations has slowed. We do, however, continue to make steady progress towards our target through both donations from Lodges and special fundraising events. Both the target and progress made to date are featured on a thermometer display on the front page of the Provincial website.

In support of the Festival, the Provincial Grand Master has launched our Festival Ale. It is available at several of



our Masonic centres in both cask and bottled form. 20p from every pint or bottle sold will be donated to the Festival. If you are a beer drinker, this is an obvious way of supporting the Festival whilst enjoying a pint of this excellent brew. To order one or more boxes of bottles or book a brewery trip please contact Kate Mulliner at Nobby's Brewery on 01832 730800.

A sell-out Sunday lunch and musical extravaganza at the Kettering Masonic centre raised over £2,000 towards the Festival. Organised by Michael Branch, it was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. Further details of this event are included later in this edition.

The Christmas pantomime season came to Masonic centres at Corby, Peterborough and Northampton. It was in



the form of the Corby Masonic Players production of Cinderella. With much audience participation - oh yes there was! - it was warmly received by children and adults alike and raised over £1,500 for the Festival and other charities.



From Sunday 29 March to Friday 3 April 2020, three members of Grey Friars Lodge (Worshipful Master David Crossley, Senior Warden Mark Hunt and Senior Deacon Matt Elmer) will walk along the route of the Grand Union Canal in a Festival fundraiser known as N2HQP. They aim to raise £6,000 and are already in training. They are deserving of our support (for more information contact Mark Hunt on



07890 344246).

Donations will be gratefully received at this link – [tiny.cc.N2HQ.com](http://tiny.cc/N2HQ.com) - or by using this QR code.



All this Festival fundraising is for OUR charity, the Masonic Charitable Foundation which continues to use about two thirds of its income supporting Masonic families in distress. There are many examples of this on their website at [mcf.org.uk](http://mcf.org.uk). In the latter part of last year, the Masonic Charitable Foundation also donated £77,500 in emergency grants to alleviate the effects of flooding in Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire. All this, and much more, is being done on behalf of

all Freemasons and we should be rightly proud of it. As we enter this new decade with our New Year resolutions let us also resolve to maintain our efforts to ensure the Festival is the great success for which we all hope.

It is natural that, whilst we are in Festival, donations to the Provincial Grand Charity are less than in years when we are not in Festival. The Provincial Grand Charity, however, is still called upon to assist needy Masonic families in the Province regardless of being in or out of Festival. A new way in which you and your families and friends can help financially support the Charity without it costing you a penny is through Amazon Smile.

Simply log on to the Amazon site using the address – [smile.amazon.co.uk](http://smile.amazon.co.uk) rather than the usual Amazon log in page. From the drop down Menu, select the Provincial Grand Charity Of Northamptonshire And Huntingdonshire as your preferred charity. Amazon will then donate 0.5% of



the net purchase price of every item you buy. The more we all do this and promote it amongst our family and friends, the more the Provincial Grand Charity will benefit - and it will not cost us a penny.

I wish you well in this new decade and in all your charitable efforts.

Gerry Crawford  
Provincial Grand Charity  
Steward

Goal  
£ 2 024 000



£ 889 462  
Raised

(as at Feb 2020)

**2024 MCF  
Festival Progress**

## A Wonderful start to Christmas

On Sunday the 8th of December 2019, the Province's Annual Festival of Lessons and Carols was again held at Peterborough Cathedral.

The Dean of Peterborough, the Very Reverend Christopher Dalliston, led the service, with the Cathedral choir giving an excellent performance throughout.

Prior to the service, The Provincial Grand Master, RW.Bro Max Bayes, chatted with the Dean and other

dignitaries as the Cathedral filled with members from across the Province together with their friends and family members.

Lessons were read by the Provincial Grand Master, as well as the heads of other Masonic orders from within the Province including the Grand Superintendent of the Holy Royal Arch, E.Comp Jim Boughton, and the Provincial Grand Master for the Mark



Degree, RW.Bro Bob Stokes.

The service concluded with the usual mince pies and glass of wine, and there was no doubt that all those in attendance left the Cathedral feeling that their Christmas was well and truly under way!





## Dr Oliver Celebrates it's Centenary

The Centenary of any Lodge is a great achievement, and the meeting of Dr Oliver Lodge No. 3964 on Friday the 25th of October 2019 at Ellindon celebrated the event in great style.

The Provincial Grand Master, RW.Bro Max Bayes, his Executive and many other distinguished Brethren were welcomed by the Master of the Lodge, W.Bro Mark Watson.

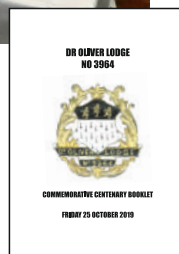
Of all the illustrious Brethren throughout the years in Freemasonry, it could be argued that The Rev Dr George Oliver is one of the most important, for it is his cautionary words on the admission of candidates that adorn many summonses, by-laws and

other such Masonic artefacts.

Born on the 5th of November 1782 in Peppleworth, Nottinghamshire, the eldest son of the Rev Samuel Oliver - who initiated him into Freemasonry in 1801/2 in St Peters Lodge, Peterborough - Dr Oliver rose in the ranks of Freemasonry and became a great writer on the subject, publishing many books. The Lodge that bears his name in Peterborough was consecrated on the 23rd of September 1919 at the Co-operative Hall, Park Road.

The consecration was undertaken by The Deputy Provincial Grand

Master W.Bro Thomas Horton PGD and W.Bro JG Sturton, reigning master of the Ailwyn Lodge, was installed into the Chair of the new Lodge.



**L to R: W.Bro Frederick Holland (JW),  
W.Bro Lou Orsi APMG,  
VW.Bro Charles Bennett DPGM,  
W.Bro Mark Watson (WM),  
RW.Bro Max Bayes PGM,  
W.Bro Mark Constant APMG,  
W.Bro James Pepper (SW),  
and  
W.Bro Dale Gilbert PAGDC ProvGDC**

# A Daily Advancement

## **The Richard Sandbach Lodge of Research No. 9600**

would like to offer this article to those keen on pursuing their 'daily advancement' of Masonic knowledge. Look out for further articles in future editions of Password.

## **The Liverpool Rebellion and the Wigan Grand Lodge**

Most Masons will know there were once two competing forms of English Freemasonry; the 'Antients' and the 'Moderns'. The 'Antients' did not like the innovations the 'Moderns' had introduced after 1717 and wanted to return to a 'pure and ancient' form. The two Grand lodges shared an uneasy existence until the Duke of Sussex heralded in the Union of 1813.

But there was to be one last major rebellion that could have scuppered the Duke's vision. It was to become known as 'The Liverpool Rebellion' and was to lead to 'The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England', also known as 'The Wigan Grand Lodge'.

In the early 1820's Liverpool was growing in wealth and influence due to the increasing worldwide demand for goods from its local industries and also its expanding seaport. The

train network was in its infancy and communications with London were stretched. The rebellion started, as these things often do, when a few important Masons in Liverpool perceived the UGLE was remote and high-handed.

In 1823 thirty-four Liverpool masons published a 'Masonic Manifesto' to air their grievances. The Duke of Sussex responded by suspending them all, which only served to draw sympathy for the rebels from some masons in neighbouring Wigan. This resulted in them jointly publishing another document; the 'Unalterable Declaration'. The Duke then attempted to appease the rebels by suspending the PGM and Deputy PGM for the Lancashire Province. But then, without warning, the UGLE withdrew the warrant of the leading rebel lodge and expelled twenty-six of their number.

This only encouraged the rebels to produce their third document: 'The Magna Carta of Masonic Freedom' which they all duly signed. They also took out advertisements in four London newspapers to ensure the UGLE got the message. They declared they were 'Antient' in persuasion

and national in ambition.

Unfortunately, their new movement was immediately in crisis when it was discovered that a senior member was embezzling funds. Financial trouble and mistrust persisted, which eventually led to the Liverpool and Wigan rebels separating. Wigan became home to 'The Wigan Grand Lodge' in 1838. They established a few lodges in Lancashire but by the mid-1850's, dogged by debt, internal disputes, expulsions and changing Grand Masters they would fail to achieve their national ambition and instead went into slow decline.

Eventually 'The Wigan Grand Lodge' became synonymous with just one lodge; 'The Lodge of Sincerity'. It bravely held out until 1913 at which point it decided to re-join the UGLE. Ninety years had passed since the publication of 'The Masonic Manifesto'. The dream of an 'Antients' Grand Lodge to rival the 'Moderns' was over. Theirs was to be the last serious challenge to the authority of the UGLE over English Freemasonry.



**The Richard Sandbach Lodge of Research No.9600 next meeting  
Monday 16th March 2020 at 6pm, Peterborough  
Talk entitled 'The Valuable Lady' by RW George P Francis PAGM**

## The Blue Rosette

In the 2018 promotions to Provincial Grand Rank I became a Past Provincial Assistant Grand Standard Bearer even though I have never served as a Worshipful Master. What I had received was a 'Blue Rosette Promotion', which refers to the apron decoration. This inspired me to carry out research on the significance of this Masonic apron.

I began by looking at the Entered Apprentice's apron. It is made of lambskin, pure white, without fault or stain. A deeper meaning may be applied as typifying innocence in our first hour of sacrifice when we dedicate ourselves to a way of life.

A Fellowcraft's apron is also white but with two light blue rosettes upon it. The rosette is believed to have entered Freemasonry due to the French love of the rosette to indicate achievement and status. They used the folded ribbon of the rosette to represent a rose and it first appeared in some official Masonic records in the early 1800s.

The Master Mason's apron is also white but has three light blue rosettes upon it. The symbolic meaning of the three rosettes is a reminder that three rule a Lodge.

The light blue colour is that of Cambridge University, and that used by Parliament when fighting King Charles. It is also closely related to the colour of the Virgin Mary. In many statues of her she is seen wearing a crown of seven stars on her head and a cloak of light blue.

When a Mason becomes a Worshipful Master the rosettes are replaced by the three Tau's or Levels to denote the overseer, whose job it is to check the building is level.

After some years as a Past Master he may receive a promotion to Provincial Grand Rank. The three Tau's are retained but the decoration on the apron is now a dark blue. This is also the colour of Oxford University, and that used by the Royalist cause during the English Civil War. Accordingly, the dark blue colour represents the rulers in the Craft. Light blue, on the

other hand, represents the Master Mason, whose duty it is to obey.

When a Master Mason who has never been Worshipful Master receives a Provincial Grand Rank the three rosettes on the apron become dark blue in colour, thus the term 'Blue Rosette Promotion'. There are only a few of these promotions each year, mostly to those who have given long service as a lodge officer or general service to Freemasonry and the community. I was honoured to be one of just nine such promotions in 2018.

**About the author:** Bro Peter Sidwell was initiated into Jersey Lodge No. 2334 in Bicester on 3rd March 1957 by his father. He is a member of the Medeshamstede, Nantahala and Scout Lodges. He is holder of the Diamond Jubilee Certificate and has a Fifty-Year Long Service Award from the Scout Association.



## Bicentenary for Pomfret Lodge

What a year 2019 has been for the oldest Lodge in The Province, with three very special meetings. Brethren attending the meeting of Pomfret Lodge No. 360 held at Sheaf Close, Northampton on Thursday the 7th of February witnessed an

was a significant part of the Lodge's bicentennial anniversary celebrations.

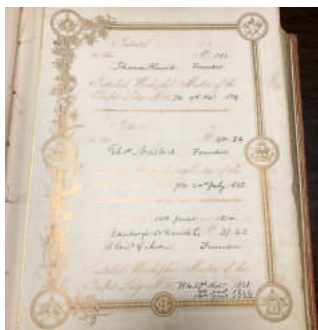
On Thursday the 4th April, the Lodge held the second event: a Progeny Banner Parade. Amongst the 150-Brethren who attended this most enjoyable event were the Provincial Grand Master, RWBro Max Bayes, and the Assistant Provincial Grand Master, WBro David Burton.

Pictured below is the Provincial Grand Master, the Master of Pomfret Lodge, WBro Mark Charteress, and representatives of the Progeny Lodges with their banners. WBro Nigel Morley, Pomfret Lodge Historian, gave a very interesting and informative lecture on Pomfret Lodge's history, he also drew some very interesting



comparisons and differences between Freemasonry in 1819 and 2019. He also explained the history behind many of the Lodge's artefacts. The evening concluded with a very enjoyable and convivial Festive Board.

Finally, the wonderful climax to the Lodge's year was the Bicentenary Warrant Presentation meeting on Thursday



outstanding Rededication of the Lodge's Banner by a team of Provincial officers most skilfully led by the Provincial Grand Master, RWBro Max Bayes. The Ceremony







the 7th of November. On this occasion the Lodge was honoured by the presence of the Deputy Grand Master, RW.Bro Jonathan Spence, accompanied by the Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies, W.Bro Edward Goodchild. The Deputy Grand Secretary, VW.Bro Graham Redman PGSwdB was also in attendance.

The event was doubly special as it marked the Deputy Grand Master's first visit to the Northants & Hunts Provincial Headquarters at Sheaf Close, Northampton. The meeting commenced in due form with a reading of the Lodge's minutes from 100-years

ago by lodge secretary, W.Bro Mark Deane PProvSGD. Many if not all of the names mentioned in the minutes were represented, or the very least remembered, by the brethren in attendance.

The Brethren present then greeted The Provincial Executive and Past Provincial Grand Masters of the Province. The Deputy Grand Secretary then read the wording of the Lodge's new Bicentenary Warrant, which the Deputy Grand Master presented to the WM for his safe keeping. The DGM wished the Lodge health and happiness for the next 100-years. The Provincial Grand

Chaplain, W.Bro John Simmonds, gave an oration in his own inimitable style, sharing his thoughts on the longstanding traditions and benefits of our wonderful institution, followed by the Patriarchal Blessing and Hymn of Thanksgiving. The Deputy Grand Master, RW.Bro Jonathan Spence, then addressed the brethren, congratulating the members of Pomfret Lodge on their wonderful longevity and associated history.



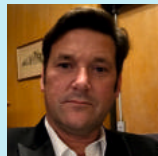
# News From The Light Blues

## **NHNYMC Communications Officer**

James Prince

07768 647940

e: James@bcctelemarketing.co.uk



**Chairman**

**Vice Chairman**

**Secretary**

**Treasurer**

**Membership Officer**

**Events/Meetings Coordinator**

**Patron**

**President**

**Vice President**

Bro Dan Cooke

W.Bro Paul McGregor

Bro Matthew Horton

Bro John Russell

Bro Reuben Freeman

Bro Stuart Cooper

RW.Bro Max Bayes PGM

W.Bro Mark Constant APGM

W.Bro Duncan Childs PG Mentor

## National New and Young Masons Conference

On Saturday the 27th of September 2019, W.Bro Mark Constant APGM, Bro Dan Cooke, W.Bro John Russell, and Bro Reuben Freeman (pictured), acting in their respective capacities of our Provinces New & Young Masons Club, attended a national conference of over 100 NYMC "Light Blue" representatives at Freemasons' Hall in Leicester.

Talks and presentations from RW.Bro David Pratt of West Ridings, VW.Bro David Staples, and RWBro Gareth Jones, proved to be most interesting and informative. A full report appears on the Provincial Website.



**For further information go to [www.nhnymc.co.uk](http://www.nhnymc.co.uk)**

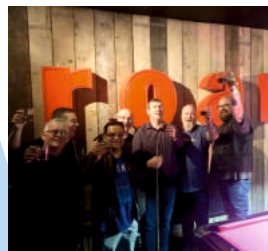
The "Hunts Light Blues" have held their first get together and also in attendance were 2 special guests in W. Bro John Clarke and W. Bro Steve Barrett

They met up for a Curry at the newly opened Olive restaurant in St Neots and can report that it was a very good evening and fantastic food.

Clockwise from left: Reece Pitts (Socrates), John Clarke (Euston), Matt Mowbray (Euston), James Bundy (Euston), Thomas Campbell (Old Kimboltonians), Chris Eddy (Toseland), Steve Barrett (Euston), Mick Marks (Euston) and Henry Duggan-Ralph (Euston).



The PGM took time out of his busy schedule to visit and personally present a Light Blue Handkerchief to our 200th Member, Marshall Line from Cumton Lodge.



On Saturday 30th November the Roman Light Blues (Southwest) visited Nobby's Brewery at Thrapston. Nobby (Paul Mulliner) is a Light Blue himself and is brewing a Festival Ale from which part of the proceeds of sales across the Province are being donated to the MCF 2024 Festival.

The event was attended by members from the Roman Light Blue Club and also very pleasing was that there were also some guests from Northampton Light Blue Club supporting.



Corby Light Blues (Steel Acacias) held a Pool night at St James Snooker Club in Corby. Once again a very successful evening and great fun was had by all.

The Stamford Light Blues Club met at the Stamford Car Show

on Sunday 25th August, 2019, what a great day.

Pictured above is Robin Hainsworth's favourite three cars he would take home! (Cars not pictured!)

On Friday 29th November, The Club met at Bombay Cottage, Stamford and enjoyed a lovely evening.

Pictured from left, Tim Russ, Mark Wibberley, Shirley and Lyn Howells and James Russ, a prospective candidate.



## Coming Soon

Stamford Poker Night - contact W. Bro Robin Hainsworth

Wellingborough & Rushden Curry Night - Saturday 22nd Feb - contact Bro Alan Sparham

NHNYMC AGM - Sunday 8th March 2020 at 10am at Sheaf Close, Northampton

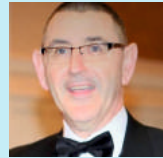
Visit to Ailwyn Lodge - Thursday 19th March - contact Bro James Prince

# News From Around The Province

## Kettering & Thrapston

### Local Communication Officer

Alex Willis  
07733 081558  
e: [alex.willis@btinternet.com](mailto:alex.willis@btinternet.com)



**At the Masonic Hall in Kettering**, on the 29th of September, a special 'Sunday Lunch & Musical Extravaganza' event took place in aid of the 2024 MCF Festival.

The afternoon was a great success with over 120-guests in attendance including the PGM, together with other members of the Provincial Executive and many active Provincial officers. Following a super meal, the audience retired to the lodge room where they enjoyed the wonderful music of one of Britain's finest trumpeters, W.Bro John

Barker. John's performance was extremely well-received and included many of the pieces played by him as heard on BBC Radio 2. A bumper raffle and auction raised £2,030, £290 of which will be credited to the Festival target of each of the seven Kettering lodges. The event was the brainchild of Kettering Group Officer, W.Bro Michael Branch, who said: "Can I thank all who attended for their

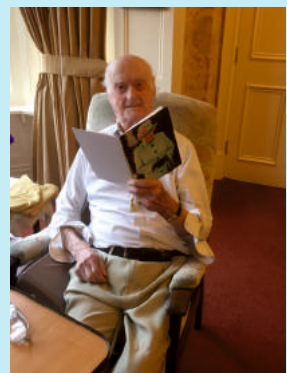
support; also those who helped with the organisation. It was a super event enjoyed by all - I couldn't be more happy!"



## On Saturday 26th

**October**, a very special event took place at Elm Bank Care Home in Kettering when W.Bro John Hanger PPJGW, a Past Master and honorary member of Cytringan Lodge No. 4048, celebrated his 100th birthday. The event was doubly significant because it fell within the Masonic year marking

the 100th anniversary of Cytringan Lodge's consecration in 1920! Many family, friends, brethren, and companions visited John during his special day, which included a tea party in the afternoon, an obligatory 100th-birthday cake, and a special birthday message from Her Majesty The Queen.





## Corby

### Local Communication Officer

Jack Summerfield

07886 768189

e: jacksummerfield@btinternet.com



**On Thursday 21st of November**, a raiding party from Lodge of Hospitality and Concord No. 8645 from Poole in the Province of Dorset attended the meeting of Lodge of Unity No. 9495 held at Corby Masonic Complex to reclaim the Travelling Gavel. The members of the raiding



Lodge No. 8526 on Thursday the 18th of January 2018

During the ceremony, W.Bro Dave wore a most striking top-hat, which had been presented by the raiding party prior to the Lodge opening.

and friends enjoyed the show, which was written by Jack Summerfield and performed by the Corby Players. The cast were supported by backstage managers Sandra Summerfield and Pam Genner.

The panto was a great success at every centre it played. It was clear that the cast derived as much pleasure from performing as



party, which was headed by the Master of Lodge of Hospitality and Concord, W.Bro Dudley Fox, witnessed a fantastic initiation ceremony led by W.Bro Dave Genner, the stand-in Worshipful Master for the evening. The fact that W.Bro Dave was in the Chair was most appropriate as it was he who led the Lodge of Unity raiding party that netted the Gavel from Lactodorum

**Pre-Christmas performances of the ever popular pantomime, Cinderella** have given great pleasure to audiences in Corby, Peterborough and Northampton.

The pictures shown below are of the Northampton performance, which took place at Sheaf Close on Saturday the 21st of December 2019.

Many Masonic families

their audience did from watching! The shows raised over £1,500 for the 2024 MCF Festival and Teddies For Loving Care. And they all lived happily ever after!



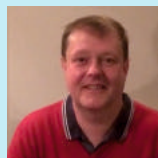


# News From Around The Province

**Huntingdon,  
Ramsey,  
St Ives,  
St Neots,  
Kimbolton**

## **Local Communication Officer**

Simon Perry  
01480 830257  
e: [simon@thehiltonpow.co.uk](mailto:simon@thehiltonpow.co.uk)



## **The 3 Pillars Feeding the Homeless – Update:**

The Charity has grown significantly with two dedicated vans and 80+ volunteers,

Wednesday evenings.

Great support has been received from many Lodges and volunteers, including local



Our future plan is to extend this much needed service to other areas experiencing similar problems of homelessness - potentially Rushden, Wellingborough, Corby, Northampton.



providing hot food and essentials in Peterborough on Tuesday & Thursday evenings and St Neots on Monday &

retailers and our Amazon 'Wish List' has provided a new channel.



## Northampton

### Local Communication Officer

Mike Howells  
07715 448203  
e: m.howells101@btinternet.com



**On Saturday the 19th of October 2019**, a Provincial team led by the Provincial Grand Master, RW.Bro Max Bayes, conducted a magnificent ceremony to consecrate Lock, Stock and Barrel Lodge No. 9984, the Province's 94th lodge, which aims to bring together those with a special interest in shooting and country pursuits. During the ceremony at Sheaf Close, the Provincial Grand Chaplain, W.Bro Rev John Simmons, gave a most thought-provoking oration on the 'Nature and Principles of the Institution'. The occasion was further enhanced by the music of

the Provincial Grand Organist, W.Bro Chris Winfield, who together with the members of Pro Musica Lodge formed a choir which helped to create a wonderful atmosphere.

Once the Consecration ceremony had concluded, the first Installation meeting of the Lodge was led by the DPGM, VW.Bro Charles Bennett, who installed the Master Designate, W.Bro David Burton PAPGM, in fine style as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. W.Bro Albert Bareham and W.Bro Mick Smith were appointed as Senior Warden and Junior Warden respectively whilst over thirty founder members

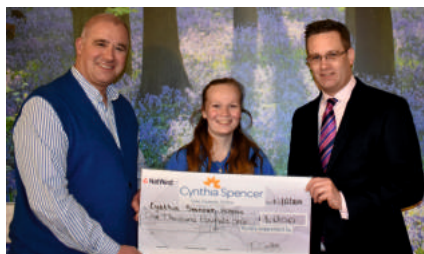
looked-on and provided fantastic support. Notice was given of at least another six members who were set to join the lodge at the next regular meeting!



**Harmony Lodge were very pleased to** hand over a cheque for £1000 to Cynthia Spencer Hospice. They raised this money through donations from many masons and colleagues after taking up a challenge to visit 48 football stadiums in 48 hours. This challenge took W.Bro Terry Cadby and Bro Reuben Freeman as far west as Hereford, south to

Southampton, East to Ipswich and North to Stoke-on-Trent, with many visited in between. It was a great, albeit tiring 48 hours, over the Easter weekend accompanied by Bro Lewis Marvel and Mr Chris Murphy, a friend of the WM, W.Bro Terry Cadby. A lot of fun was had along the way and we met some nice people along the

way. Pictured below are Terry and Reuben, with Lauren Byrom from Cynthia Spencer.



# News From Around The Province

## Northampton

### Local Communication Officer

Ian Nelson  
07977 571799  
e: [ian@ian-nelson.com](mailto:ian@ian-nelson.com)



**An initiation in a Lodge is not really** hot news but the evening of the 16th of December was an important milestone on the recovery journey for St John's Lodge No 3972 in Northampton. After some years at risk of closing, last year saw an influx of joining members after a plea from the PGM which has helped to rescue the Lodge. The 16th saw the first candidate for initiation the Lodge has had for at least six years. Bro John Shultz was welcomed into the Lodge and is soon to be

joined by two other candidates that the Lodge has lined up to be initiated in the near future. All now bodes well for the Lodge to make a full recovery which will be supported by an application to join the Universities Lodge Scheme and the fact that the whole Lodge progression is made up of Light Blue Masons. The Lodge is looking forward to it's next big milestone the commemoration of it's Centenary on 17th February 2020 which it is hoped many will join with us to celebrate.



L-R: SW Bro Jim Keegan, WM W.Bro Michael Long, Bro John Shultz, JW Bro David Cooper

**Freemasonry was well represented** at the recent Northampton University Freshers Week exhibition with members of The Order of Women Freemasons, Northants and Hunts New and Young Masons Club (NHNMYC) and Northants and Hunts Provincial team all available to help with

the significant number of enquires they received from students. It was a most

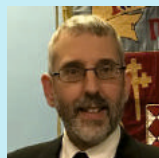
successful event with great interest shown in all aspects of membership of the Craft.



## Peterborough, Oundle

### Local Communication Officer

Craig Bunday  
07771 538661  
e: [craigbunday@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:craigbunday@hotmail.co.uk)



### St. Wilfrid Lodge have started to use the 'iZettle 2 Card Payment Machine'

since the start of this season to allow the brethren to pay for the Festive Board by Credit / Debit Card or even Apple Pay via Apple phone or watch. The considerations for doing this were that future is a moving towards a cashless society, ease of payment for the brethren and less cash to deal with. At least 50% of the brethren at St. Wilfrid now pay by iZettle. To start, you need to set the iZettle up on the internet which then

allows you to use the app. The internet and phone tablet apps are very user friendly. The Lodge has decided this year to accept payments on the iZettle for the Festive Board, it will be discussed whether we can use it for other payments in the future. Any lodge wishing to consider one of these devices can email Bro. Richard Hall on [richard@suncrop.co.uk](mailto:richard@suncrop.co.uk) to find out more.



Each year, Scholia Regia award a trophy to 'The Best Dressed Shop Window' in Millfield, Peterborough. Pictured on the left is the current WM, Richard Parson, with Langford Smith on the far right, and this year's winners - 'Celebrations' - who also receive a cheque of £75 for their chosen charity, Cancer Research. A second cheque for £80, not pictured, was presented to The Salvation Army.



**The Nene Valley Care Trust (NVCT)** - which helps young people leaving care in Peterborough and the Nene Valley towards education, training, accommodation and jobs - has received a cheque for £2000 from Petriburg Lodge, which raised £600 for the Charity during last year. This was subsequently topped up with further Lodge donations to £1000. They then applied to the Provincial Grand

Charity to have the figure doubled, and were successful.

The full article appears on the Provincial Website.





# News From Around The Province

## Wellingborough & Rushden

### Local Communication Officer

Trevor Cook  
07914 941579  
e: trevcook@live.co.uk



**Traditionally Wellingborough has always** held the Widows Xmas party on a Saturday but this year they decided to try something different. An extra Sunday Lunch was included into the program but this Sunday Lunch was to be "Xmas Sunday lunch with the widows". Widows from all of the Wellingborough Lodges were invited to attend by their lodge Almoners but this year Brethren and their Ladies from the Lodges were also invited to attend and support the widows and may be meet some old friends.

A total of 81 dined at the masonic hall Wellingborough, which included 17 widows from various lodges who meet at the centre. The food was a traditional 3 course Xmas menu and supported throughout with music from Brother Steve Baldock (Dr Busker) to which everyone joined in enthusiastically with the carols. All of the ladies present received a small gift of chocolates from the Wellingborough



Masonic Hall House Committee and a raffle was also held with some first class prizes.

Congratulations to the Light Blues very own Chairman, Dan Cooke on his Installation at Wentworth Lodge, Wellingborough in January 2020.



## Stamford

### Local Communication Officer

Stuart Morgan  
07593 083324  
e: sagittarians@hotmail.co.uk



### Support for Alzheimer's Charity.

The 2019 Lodge of Merit No. 466 Ladies Evening was held at Greetham Valley Golf Club. As is the custom this event raised money for a charity chosen by the Lady of the Worshipful Master. W.Bro Lyndon Howells was in the chair

therefore this choice fell to his wife, Shirley. She did not hesitate to nominate the Alzheimer's Society. Her 'Ladies Evening' raised the princely sum of £520, which was presented last October as a cheque to Mrs Heidi Wilkinson at the society's headquarters in Leicester. The picture



shows W.Bro Lyndon Howells and W.Bro Paul Haynes presenting the cheque.

### Lands End to John O'Groats Cycle Ride

W.Bro. Jeff Chambers, Provincial Grand Charity Steward for Northants & Hunts Mark Master Masons, is in serious training for the cycle ride from Lands End to John O'Groats. He will be joined by W.Bro. Stuart Morgan, seen in the picture when he last completed this ride back in 2016. They will set off from Land's End

on 18th April and hope to complete the nearly 1,000-mile journey on 5th May. They will be raising money for the Provincial Mark Benevolent Fund. W.Bro. Jeff is a veteran having completed this ride six times before. However, they both concede they are getting no younger and do not underestimate the size of the challenge. Not surprisingly, they have

both said this is definitely the very last time they will embark on this particular ride. But they said that before!



# News From Around The Province

**South West  
Brackley,  
Daventry,  
Towcester**

## **Local Communication Officer**

Mike Sheppard  
01327 705600  
e: sheppardmike88@gmail.com



## **A very succesful**

**Ladies Luncheon** was hosted by the WM, WBro. Graham Minett and his wife, Denise, at Dodford Manor on Sunday October 13th. Despite a damp, drizzly start to the day, the venue, the food, the company and the excellent professional entertainment all went



towards making this a very enjoyable day.

With 87 attendees, including Brethren, Ladies and friends, the atmosphere was 'buzzing', which was

also partly due to the electric violinist who played during and after the four courses and the post lunch coffees.

As a departure from the normal custom, Mrs. Denise Minett did not arrange for the usual ladies' presents but, instead, made a donation on behalf of each lady to Cancer Research UK. Along with the raffle, a total of £650 was raised for that charity on the day.

Each lady did receive, however, a red rose as a memento of the day.



# News From Other Orders

**On 28th November 2019,**

both present and past members of the East Midlands Divisional Sepulchre Guard of the Masonic and Military Order of the Red Cross of Constantine, mustered for the biennial Sepulchre Guard Mess. The event was held at The Boat Inn, Stoke Bruerne by kind permission of P. Kt. Andrew Woodward.

One of the highlights of the evening was the ritual sabraging of several bottles of champagne prior to the



meal: all attempts were skillfully executed!

After the meal, the Intendant-General, R. Ill. Kt. John Manby announced that the Captain of the Guard, W. Kt.

Stuart Morgan and his Deputy, Dominic Willmott would both be standing down in May after three years' service in their respective roles and their replacements would be W. Kt. Mark Meade as Captain and W. Kt. John Stock as Deputy Captain.



**Members of Powys Lodge and the Provincial Team**

**On Friday 4th October, The Powys Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners** was

delighted to welcome members of the Provincial Team to its Installation Meeting during which they dedicated a Banner for the Lodge, not having had one since its Consecration in June 1918.

There was also a strong contingent from Leicestershire and Rutland brethren present. There is a strong historic connection

between our two as prior to 1894 we were all the Province of Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Derbyshire and Rutlandshire. Following the meeting, the brethren joined

together in harmony for a wonderful Ellindon festive board.

**On the 25th September at the St. Ives Masonic Centre,** the Provincial Grand Master, Right Worshipful Brother Bob Stokes, presented W.Bro. Frederick Victor (Vic) Bashford with a 50 year RAM certificate.

Born on the 28th December 1920 at Horley in Surrey, Vic was the eldest of 3 children. Following a fulfilling RAF career, he worked for London

Brick Company. Retiring to Ramsey, he played cricket for Warboys and enjoyed golf at Ramsey Golf club, becoming Club Captain, President and Seniors Captain and later the Cambridge Union Captain. Vic was Advanced into St.Ivo Lodge of MMM in April 1968 and later became a member of many Mark Lodges. Prior to Bedfordshire becoming a separate Province in 1985, Vic was also a Founder of Ampthill RAM Lodge in 1980 and is still a member of Northants, Hunts and Beds Installed Commanders Lodge.



**LtoR: W.Bro. Bashford, R.W.Bro. Stokes, W.Bro. King, WC of Great Ouse RAM Lodge**



## Message from The Grand Superintendent

By the time you read this we will be well into 2020 and I wish you all the best for the year ahead.

I mentioned in the Autumn edition that we were planning to offer a further round of PSA testing for possible signs of Prostate cancer. That programme began in November 2019 in Northampton at which 130 Companions and Brethren attended. It will continue in Peterborough on the 29th February and then in Corby on the 25th April. Notice will be given to Companions and Brethren and I urge all over the age of 45 to seriously consider taking advantage of this programme.

My grateful thanks go to those Chapters who have contributed toward our support of the Craft 2024 Festival. I am well



aware that all of us have many calls on our finances, particularly during a Festival (we all have only so much to give). Your generosity is much appreciated.

I am immensely proud of all the work being done by Chapters in this Province and I thank those Scribes E who responded to the recent Annual Chapter Report. This feedback will enable me to report with confidence and pride to Supreme Grand Chapter that, by all accounts, many Chapters are actively looking at ways to build upon the work

being done within the Craft, that all should complete their journey in Pure Antient Freemasonry, by enhancing the experience of all Companions during the ceremony of Exaltation through participation and added drama.

A monthly look at membership statistics indicates that we are countering our losses, no mean feat in itself, and I thank you all for your continued efforts.

Let us then move forward through 2020 with renewed vigour to encourage all our Brethren to complete their journey by participating with us in the joy that is the Supreme Degree of the Holy Royal Arch, the completion of Pure Antient Freemasonry.

Jim Boughton  
Most Excellent Grand Superintendent (MEGS)

**140 Companions and Brethren from around Northampton** attended the PSA Testing Session of this seasons PSA screening programme for Prostate Cancer held at Sheaf Close on Saturday 30th November 2019. The series of events are organised by Companions of the Supreme

Degree of the Holy Royal Arch in conjunction with the Graham Fulford Trust and underwritten by both the Royal Arch and Craft Provinces. A similar programme took place in 2017/18 as a result of which several Companions/ Brethren were found, unbeknown to them,

to have Prostrate Cancer and then went on to receive treatment. Without this intervention they may well not be around today to tell the story and express their gratitude for the opportunity to be screened. to be screened in this manner as it may, as some have found, save their lives.

**Further sessions are planned for Peterborough (Saturday 29th February 2020) and Corby (Saturday 25th April 2020) for which Companions and Brethren in those areas will receive notice. All are urged to take the opportunity.**

**The Installation Convocation of the Perseverance Chapter No.455** was held on 25th November 2019.

The Chapter was honoured with the presence of the 2nd Provincial Grand Principal, E Comp John Payne, accompanied by the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, E Comp Steve Seward.



**E Comp Neil Handley, Deputy Grand Superintendent enjoys meeting up with predecessor, E Comp Mike Coleman, PDepGSupt`**

**For full details on all of these stories, please visit the Provincial Website**

# In Remembrance

## Lest We Forget.....Remembrance 2019



Daventry



Stamford



Desborough



Peterborough



Corby



Wellingborough



Kettering

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of W.Bro Dr John Robert (Bob) Beeton PJGD to the Grand Lodge above on Tuesday the 24th of September 2019.

W.Bro Bob was the Senior Group Officer for Peterborough for many years. He was a very active, well-liked and respected Freemason throughout the Province and beyond.

Only last year, Bob received his Golden Jubilee certificate from the Provincial Grand Master, RWBro Max Bayes.

Bob is survived by his wife, Annette; his two daughters, Sandra and Claire; his son-in-law, James; and his grandson Fin.

Bob's family came from Yaxley near Peterborough where his father ran a successful haulage business. After leaving junior school, Bob was enrolled as a boarder at Kimbolton School where he stayed until 1957. Upon leaving, Bob went to Durham University where he studied and qualified as a doctor; he also met Annette there.

After university, Bob moved to Norwich where he lived for several years before

returning to Peterborough. He joined a successful GP partnership where he became senior partner, a role he performed until retirement. During that time, Bob was appointed as the team doctor for Peterborough United Football Club. He enjoyed many Saturday afternoons watching "The Posh" in their heyday.

Bob was a keen sportsman and played cricket for Peterborough Town Cricket Club and Milton & Longthorpe Cricket Club. He was also a past captain of Peterborough Milton Golf Club where he continued to play up until his passing. Bob was a Lewis. He was initiated into Old Kimboltonians' Lodge No. 7204 in May 1968, later joining Fitzwilliam Lodge No. 2533 in 1984. Interestingly, neither of these lodges were his father's.

Bob was also a member of the Palmer Lodge of Provincial Grand Stewards No. 8995, Northants & Hunts Lodge of Installed Masters No. 3422, and Three Counties Lodge No. 9278.

E Comp Bob was exalted into the Holy Royal Arch in

Chicheley Chapter No. 607 in April 1984 subsequently becoming MEZ in 1991 and joining Chapter of First Principals No. 3422 in 1999. Bob was promoted to Grand Rank in both Craft and Holy Royal Arch. He was a Group Officer for Peterborough for several years, eventually becoming the Senior Group Officer.

Bob was also an active member of many other orders, including Preceptory, Rose Croix, Knights Templar Priests, and the Crux Rubra Conclave of the Red Cross of Constantine. In Medeshamstede Chapter in Peterborough, he gained his 30 degree.

Only last year, Bob joined the Norman Rolfe Lodge of Mark Master Masons.

Bob has had a very distinguished career in Freemasonry, which was his life.



**Bob was a dedicated Mason, gentleman and good friend. He was well-liked and respected, and has died regretted. He will be sorely missed by us all. May he rest in peace.**

**We also mark the sad loss of Gordon Mark Gentry, PAGStB, LGR, Past Master of Three Counties Lodge No.9278 who passed to the Grand Lodge above on 10th July 2019.**



## Northampton LAMs – Summer Outing to Althorp House

The weather was just right for this lovely afternoon out at Althorp House, the beautiful and unique home of the Spencer Family, dating back 500 years and currently under the direction of Charles, the Ninth Earl Spencer.

We travelled to Althorp on an old, red, double decker bus, courtesy of David and Sue Cooper – its ambience a fitting reminder of times past.

Access to the House itself enabled us to tour the State Rooms in a 'free-flow' pattern. This approach enables guests to move around at their own pace and more casually, but the lack of a guided tour in no way diminishes the experience as there are knowledgeable members of staff based in the key rooms, all of whom were delighted to talk to us. In fact, the staff members at Althorp, ranging from the younger to not so young, were extremely helpful and welcoming.

Many of us took the

opportunity to walk down to the lake which is the final resting place of Diana, Princess of Wales. This is a very tranquil place and there is a stillness about it which is tangible. Walking to and from the lake you cannot fail to admire the beautiful Estate scenery and the many and varied trees along the way.

During our visit, we enjoyed a 'cream tea' at the Stables Cafe, sitting outside in the mild weather, where we also had an opportunity to view two exhibitions – The

History of the Spencer Family and Animals of Althorp.

Of course, a visit to Althorp would not be complete without a visit to the Gift Shop, before we departed on our red bus heading for home. All in all, whether it is your first visit to Althorp House, or just one of many, it is always a pleasure to visit this unique gem nestling in the Northamptonshire countryside.



## Wellingborough Ressurect - 'The Millies'

The Millies were originally started by Ladies of Wellingborough Masons. It ran from 1991 until 2004. They raised money by running coffee mornings and events. All money raised was donated to the Hall and as well as paying for decoration they purchased the bar furniture and

replacement UPVC windows at the front of the building.

The Millies was restarted in October 2019 by wives of Wellingborough masons. They are currently holding coffee mornings and have events planned for 2020. All of the coffee mornings have been well supported by

wives, families and even brethren from the lodges. Coffee mornings are held at the masonic Hall Wellingborough 10:00 – 12:00. £2.50 for tea/coffee and home-made cakes. Future dates are: January 18th, February 15th and March 14th.

[millroadmillies@gmail.com](mailto:millroadmillies@gmail.com)

# Roll Of Honour

Many congratulations to all the Brethren featured on our Roll of Honour.



## 60 YEARS

### **Samuel Hagen**

Pictured being presented his certificate by W.Bro Mark Constant APMG

Ferraria Lodge



### **Elvin Roy Cole**

Pictured being presented his certificate by W.Bro David Burton PAPGM

Dr Oliver



### **Jonathan Morgan**

Pictured being presented his certificate by W.Bro Graham Sands PPJGW

St Wilfrid



## 50 YEARS

### **Paul Heath John M Harvey**

Spelhoe  
Wentworth

Our best wishes for the future are included with this public recognition of your valuable service.



# Provincial Grand Lodge 2020 / 2021 Active Officers

Rank	Name	Lodge
PGM	Maxwell William BAYES	L6838 Lodge of St James
DepProvGM	Charles Anthony BENNETT	L1911 De la Pre
AsstProvGM	Luigi ORSI	L6516 Lodge of St Paul
AsstProvGM	Mark Robert CONSTANT	L7204 Old Kimboltonians'
ProvSGW	Jonathon Richard Hedley HIBBINS	L2533 Fitzwilliam
ProvJGW	Stephen Nicholas KINGAN	L7204 Old Kimboltonians'
ProvGChap	Rev John SIMMONS	L9814 Scout
ProvGTreas	Paul Anthony SPARKS	L8158 Dr Field
ProvGReg	Paul Roger WINCHESTER	L9775 Grand Junction
ProvGSec	William Thomas DIGGINS	L5978 Lodge of St George
ProvGDC	Dale Robert GILBERT	L6532 Risdene
ProvGSwdB	Brian John William HORNIGOLD	L3039 Pemberton
ProvGSuptWks	Nigel Kenneth JOHNSON	L607 Chicheley
ProvDepGDC	Thomas Simon WEBSTER	L8767 Petriburg
ProvDepGDC	Roger John BLASON	L7557 Piscator
ProvGAlm	Kevin Charles MACKIE	L6104 Medeshamstede
ProvGChStwd	Gerald Raymond CRAWFORD	L4990 Grey Friars
ProvGMen	Duncan Philip CHILDS	L455 Lodge of Perseverance
ProvGORat	William Murray CASWELL	L455 Lodge of Perseverance
ProvSGD	Joe Sao APEA	L4990 Grey Friars
ProvSGD	Nicholas John CORY	L5195 John Pyel
ProvSGD	Derek Joseph MALONEY	L6838 Lodge of St James
ProvSGD	Nicholas Christopher GARNER	L9364 Burghley
ProvJGD	Robert REID	L6644 Thistle and Rose
ProvJGD	Richard Damian ORME	L5627 St Crispin
ProvJGD	Genese Bernard DAVID	L8041 Abington
ProvJGD	Barry Keith POTTER	L9814 Scout
ProvAGSec	Gilbert John WILLIAMSON	L2555 England's Centre
ProvAGDC	Philip Godfrey Clark MILES	L373 Socrates
ProvAGDC	Derek Alfred HORNBuckle	L3039 Pemberton
ProvAGDC	John Joseph CUMMINS	L9516 Chetene
ProvAGDC	Stephen William GRIGGS	L9829 Wilavestone
ProvGOrg	Christopher Hugh WINFIELD	L4048 Cytringan
ProvGStB	Frederick Lewis Charles KING	L2684 St Ivo
ProvGStB	Alexander Brown CRUICKSHANK	L7439 Willowbrook
ProvAGStB	Roy Reginald SPARKS	L8158 Dr Field
ProvGPurs	Kris Simon ROBERTS	L9814 Scout
ProvGStwd	Stephen John WINTERTON	L442 St Peter's
ProvGStwd	Malcolm WALDIE	L455 Lodge of Perseverance
ProvGStwd	Stephen Mark STOCK	L5195 John Pyel
ProvGStwd	Stephen Paul WOOD	L8400 Whytewell
ProvGStwd	Mark Richard William BENNETT-TIGHE	L6104 Medeshamstede
ProvGStwd	Paul MCGREGOR	L8736 Lodge of St Giles
ProvGStwd	Michael John STEVENS	L8932 Buckby Castle
ProvGStwd	Thomas David HALL	L9344 Lodge of Heritage
PProvGStwd	Richard Frank SKILLEN	L8489 Ferrara
PProvGStwd	Philip James RUSSELL	L8526 Lactodorum
PProvGStwd	Terrance Alan CADBY	L9048 Harmony
ProvGTyler	John Andrew BETTS	L455 Lodge of Perseverance