

Discover Freemasonry in Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire

INTEGRITY
FRIENDSHIP
RESPECT
SERVICE



PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE
OF NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
& HUNTINGDONSHIRE

What are your guiding principles?

Freemasons use four important guiding principles to help define their path through life: integrity, friendship, respect and service.

In today's world filled with uncertainty, these principles ring as true as they have at any point in the organisation's history.

One of the oldest social and charitable organisations in the world, Freemasonry's roots lie in the traditions of the medieval stonemasons who built our cathedrals and castles.



"Masonry has helped to affirm and cement my beliefs, but so much more. The festive board is an opportunity to eat with friends from all walks of life and to develop the bonds of camaraderie that form one of the foundations of Freemasonry."

JONATHAN
SCOUT LODGE

Membership is open to people from all backgrounds and the organisation's aim is to empower members to be the best they can be – it's about building character, supporting members as individuals, and helping them make a positive contribution to society.



"Being a son of a mason, I originally joined Freemasonry to have a shared experience with my father, since I've joined Freemasonry it has helped me in many ways. Freemasonry is like an extended family, there to support you when you need it, building friendships with people you may otherwise not interact with and encourage you to be a better person. Being part of something with so much history is very humbling, but knowing you're doing your part to make a difference no matter how big or small is a driver to keep coming back."

ALEX
ST PETER'S LODGE

Freemasonry provides a structure for members to come together under these common goals, enabling people to make new friendships, develop themselves and make valuable contributions to charitable causes.

INTEGRITY:

Building good people

Rather than working on buildings like the masons of old, today's Freemasons focus on building themselves as people of integrity, and membership provides the structure to help achieve that goal.



"Being part of an organisation with such history & strong moral codes, meaning its members give their best to society, is very important to me. My membership has been enhanced by friendships created among like-minded individuals from all walks of life."

REUBEN
LODGE OF ST JAMES



"It's been an amazing journey and I'm most certainly a better man today than I was before I joined. Freemasonry has given me a new lease of life."

GERRY
OLD NORTHAMPTONIANS
LODGE

At an individual level, being a Freemason gives members a sense of purpose, supporting and guiding them on their journey through life. Collectively, members are bonded through a sense of unity and equitability – principles fundamental to Freemasonry.

THE HISTORY OF THE HANDSHAKE

Historically, stonemasons travelled from place to place to secure work. At this time, handshakes were commonly used as a means for stonemasons to identify themselves, proving their level of experience and indicating what position they held. Today, in recognition of this practice, handshakes are used ceremonially as a way of identifying the various levels within Freemasonry.

FRIENDSHIP:

Building together

One of the oldest social organisations in the world, Freemasonry is not defined by an ideology.

It is open to people from all religions and political persuasions, and provides the common foundation for friendships between members, many of which will last for life.



"I've been involved with professional sport for most of my life and can say that the camaraderie and friendship in Freemasonry is second to none."

JAKE
ELEANOR CROSS

Being a Freemason means something different to each person who joins, but whether looking to make acquaintances or develop their own potential, all members share a sense of togetherness that strengthens their ability to succeed and grow.



"I have met so many great people all of whom have shown genuine support & interest in me. I have already learnt much and am doing so during each Lodge meeting with a smile."

BRAD
LODGE OF HERITAGE

BUILDING FRIENDSHIPS FOR LIFE

From university schemes, to new masons clubs, to special interest Lodges, Freemasonry gives members many opportunities to make friends for life. Finding bonds with people who share common interests and meeting people from all different backgrounds are only some of the ways Freemasonry can help cultivate lasting friendships.

RESPECT:

Building unity

With a membership of more than 200,000 people drawn from communities across the UK, Freemasonry brings people together irrespective of their race, religion or any other perceived differences that can divide us as a society.

"I joined Freemasonry 3 years ago with apprehension, anticipation and excitement in equal measure. Since then I have met so many people whom I would never come across in my daily life. It is that diversity that makes me proud to be a Freemason."

ADAM
DANETRE LODGE





"Freemasonry has given me a friendship and support network that will last forever."

CHRIS
EUSTON LODGE

Our members are proud to be Freemasons, and they are encouraged to talk openly about what the organisation does and what it means to be part of it.

FEMALE FREEMASONS

There are two female-only Grand Lodges, the Honourable Fraternity of Ancient Freemasons (HFAF) and the Order of Women Freemasons (OWF). The HFAF and OWF follow exactly the same ritual and wear the same regalia as male Freemasons – and they often work closely with community and charity projects.

Female Freemasons Annie Besant and Charlotte Despard were prominent figures in the push for universal suffrage in the early twentieth century. Besant was a British theosophist and women's rights activist who also established the first UK lodge of the International Order of Co-Freemasonry (Le Droit Humain) in 1902. Despard, an Anglo-Irish suffragist, pacifist and novelist, was a founding member of various reformist organisations whose presence lives on today in the North London pub named in her honour.

SERVICE:

Building compassion

Whether participating in events, fundraising for a charitable cause or volunteering for public or community organisations, service is at the very heart of Freemasonry.

Our members make valuable contributions by donating time, resources and skills.



"Being a Freemason has taught me to be a better man and has made me more aware of helping others in need. It has also improved my self-confidence."

MARK

MEDESHAMSTEDE LODGE

Individuals can make an important contribution at local, national and global level by giving both their time and money. Thanks to their efforts, Freemasonry is one of the largest charitable givers in the country, contributing more than £48m to deserving causes in 2018 alone. Freemasons don't only donate money – over 5 million hours of volunteer work was undertaken by Freemasons in 2018.



"Freemasonry challenges you to become a better person. At the same time it encourages you to extend your compassion and charity to help your local communities."

DUNCAN
BURGHLEY LODGE

FREEDOM OF THE CITY

In 1894, facing financial crisis, Manchester City Football Club was offered a helping hand by the Freemasons. In acknowledgement of the organisation's act of charity, the club adopted Masonic colours, giving them the light blue shirts that are so recognisable to football fans today.



Membership

Becoming a Freemason means you'll be joining more than 200,000 members throughout England and Wales as well as Districts overseas.

Membership is open to any man over the age of 18 irrespective of their race or religion, and women are invited to join one of two female-only Grand Lodges: The Order of Women Freemasons and the Honourable Fraternity of Ancient Freemasons.

In total, we have more than 7,000 Lodges, with students also able to join one of the 81 University Scheme Lodges.



"Freemasonry is like a family, where older members provide guidance and advice, and newer brethren share experiences and learnings. Through Lodges, & Masonic events, we all are welcome to enjoy the warmth and friendship – as we pass through our masonic journeys together."

MIKE
TOWCESTRIAN LODGE

Lodge meetings are typically held in two parts. The first involves more administrative procedures, such as proposing and balloting for new members and receiving news about charitable fundraising.

The second part focuses on ceremonies, which might relate to areas such as the admittance of new members or the installation of the Master of the Lodge and his officers – a process made up of three degrees, or stages, each one marked by a special ceremony.

True to the sense of friendship and togetherness among Freemasons, meetings are also social events, providing an occasion for members to dine together.

Outside of the Lodge, activities include community fundraising and volunteering activities as well as a varied programme of events where spouses, partners and families are welcome.



FINDING THE RIGHT FREEMASONRY FOR YOU

There are many specialist Lodges in Freemasonry; Webb Ellis Lodge No 9740, for example, is one of a vast number found throughout the country. The Lodge is for those who are also keen rugby fans. Other specialist lodges include a variety of interests, as well as classic cars, uniformed services and music.

Discover Northamptonshire & Huntingdonshire

The Province of Northamptonshire & Huntingdonshire enjoys a long, rich masonic history which dates to 1789 when we received our Patent from the United Grand Lodge of England and our oldest Lodge is Pomfret Lodge which was consecrated in 1819.

Stretching from Stamford in the North to Brackley in the South, as far West as Daventry and as far East as St Neots. Our Lodges meet in towns such as Northampton, Peterborough, Kettering, Corby, Stamford, Towcester, and Daventry in centres which range from modern, purpose-built centres powered by renewable energy to Village Halls and a Working Mens' Club.



"Whichever of the many different centres you visit in the Province, the welcome and hospitality is always first class with the hand of friendship extended to make your visit memorable to the point that you cannot wait to return!"

DANIEL
WENTWORTH LODGE
– WELLINGBOROUGH



"Since its inception the Northants & Hunts New & Young Masons Club (NHNYMC), has been instrumental in building the bonds of friendship between new and young Freemasons not only in their own centres, but, across the whole Province. After becoming a Freemason, your next step should be to join the NHNYMC."

CHAIR, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE & HUNTINGDONSHIRE NEW & YOUNG MASONS' CLUB

Northamptonshire & Huntingdonshire New & Young Masons' Club

Our Club which is commonly known as the 'Light Blues' from the colour of its members aprons was created in 2019 and provides a forum for new and younger Masons to meet, enjoy social events together, share ideas, and contribute towards the future of Freemasonry within the Province and beyond.

The idea is to ensure a vibrant and enthusiastic membership, one respectful of old ideas and traditions, but not bound by them. Every Mason is eligible to join from the minute they join.

The club put on a comprehensive range of events that members can enjoy in fact, many of these events look to involve friends and family as well so that everyone gets to enjoy the fun that Freemasonry has to offer!



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& HUNTINGDONSHIRE

To find out more about Freemasonry or for
information on how to become a member, please
visit us at www.northants-huntsmaons.org.uk

 @PGLodgeNorthantsHunts

 @NHMasons

 @northantsandhuntsfreemasons



UNITED GRAND LODGE
OF ENGLAND

www.ugle.org.uk



www.mcf.org.uk