

CONCORD



Buckinghamshire enhances the Lodge room experience

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08 BIG JUST
KEEPS GETTING
BIGGER!

17 HEROES COME
IN ALL SHAPES
AND SIZES

52 BUCKS MASONIC
CENTENARY
FUND

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BIG just keeps getting bigger!

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Welcome

From the Provincial Grand Master

Welcome to the winter edition of Concord. So much has happened in the last year that it is sometimes difficult to keep up.

Project Transform, under the leadership of Tim Anders, is now rolled out across the Province. As you will see in the pages that follow, Tim and I, with the help of the Light Blues demonstration team, have been very busy. I hope that these theatrical ceremonies will inspire new members to ask their own circle of friends to join.

To complement the Light Blues team, who have been struggling to cope with demand for Project Transform performances over the last year, our Provincial Director of Ceremonies Steve Pratt will be putting together two additional teams: one from the Provincial Grand Stewards Lodge and another from Addington Acting Provincial Grand Officers Lodge to cover the increased demand for demonstrations of the 3rd Degree ceremony.

Although this project is very advanced there is still a big task ahead. A programme of training courses will commence this month to help your lodge use the light and sound systems to best effect. I would suggest that you have

three people able to do light and three people for sound to cover for absence. The first of these courses is taking place at Winslow on Friday 29th February at 7:30pm.

"This project literally has done what it says on the tin in Transforming our Ceremonies into moving theatrical performances which leave a lasting effect on our new members."

With this issue you will find your personal copy of the 2024 Province of Buckinghamshire strategy document. Please have a read through. You will see that the Province has achieved 1st place for the 3rd year running for the percentage of new initiates to members. This is a superb achievement and a credit to you all. You will also see that your efforts are now starting to make a significant reduction in resignations. This document will help you to understand what is being undertaken on your behalf by the Provincial Executive.

"We set ourselves challenging membership targets which we have smashed for the last three years. Let's make this year even better."

It is a fact that due to our own success we are a little bogged down with too many ceremonies to complete. Our new BAF or Bring a Friend events have added to the challenge again with over 70 attending the one recently held in Bletchley. Who would have thought that might become a problem just 6 years ago? To help alleviate



this situation and after the huge success of BIG100 in 2021, UGLE have agreed, once again, to let us have the free use of Freemasons Hall and all of the lodge rooms, including the magnificent Grand Temple, all day on Saturday the 29th June 2024.

"BIG 1-2-3" will allow lodges to primarily initiate new candidates but you will also be able to conduct 2nd and 3rd degrees and you can expect some spectacular theatre in the Grand Temple. There will be no cost to your lodge for the meeting and after the work is over, we will have a party with a live band, buffet and bar in the Galley Suite. Full details will follow. Please embrace this opportunity to take part in another historical Buckinghamshire event.

"With your help we hope to conduct 123 ceremonies in a single day."

There really is a spring in the step of every Buckinghamshire Freemason now and long may it continue. Our enthusiasm is infectious and will result in further success.

I hope you will all enjoy 2024, we have made a great start, and I think it is going to be the best year yet.

John Clark

**Provincial Grand Master
for Buckinghamshire**

WHAT HAPPENED IN 2023

Well, what a year 2023 was. I want to thank everyone for your support, not just to the Royal Arch but to Masonry in this wonderful Province of Buckinghamshire.

Both the Craft and the Royal Arch enjoyed growth in numbers, spirit, and enjoyment. This can only be achieved by the members, i.e. YOU. I do not want to go through the numbers, suffice to say we did well last year. BIG RED was a game changer for us, with over 50 new exaltees joining our ranks, creating a buzz around the Province, and sowing the seeds for many more Master Masons choosing to continue their Masonic journey. I want to say now that we will not be holding a BIG RED in 2024. I think you all deserve a break. However, who knows what 2025 will bring? I think we can focus on other initiatives this year.

With over 80% of our Chapters growing in memberships in 2023, we look forward to another bumper year of exciting, dramatic ceremonies and welcoming many more Master Masons on the next part of their Masonic journey. The Province and the Chapters are a partnership and, as a province, we need to be there to help and support but not to interfere. The big question now is how will we, as partners, assist each other in delivering another bumper year?



MEMBERS INCREASE **56%**

6% INCREASE on 2023

EXALTEES TO MEMBERS **9%**

NUMBER OF EXALTATIONS **89**

Thank you to everyone for a great result

THE INTRODUCTION OF ARCHWAY

Supreme Grand Chapter have developed Archway as an aid for all chapters in Shaping, Growing, Involving members and Enjoying their Royal Arch. It is an easy-to-use online tool that will enable you to question what your Chapter currently does and maybe try something new. None of it is rocket science; the platform is open to everyone to use and create ideas. Several Archway Launch meetings are being held across the Province, these are available to all Royal Arch Masons to attend. Every member of a Chapter is responsible for the success of their Chapter and should want to get involved and be part of the future.



UNATTACHED ROYAL ARCH MASONS

We have approximately 300 unattached Royal Arch Masons in the Province. To clarify, these are masons who had joined the Royal Arch at one time and found they did not enjoy it, or circumstances changed and they needed to resign. This year, we aim to re-engage with as many of these companions as possible and invite them to come and see what the Royal Arch in Buckinghamshire looks like in 2024. They will be impressed and want to be part of your chapters.

At the Provincial Craft Meeting in October, the Provincial Grand Master and I appointed six RA Ambassadors to an entirely new role. The Ambassadors will work with each Lodge Royal Arch representative to promote the RA and identify and prepare new members, including supporting and encouraging the unattached members to once again consider the Royal Arch.

Our team of RA Ambassadors are

- Ex Comp Darren Mantell
- Ex Comp Stephen Kirby
- Ex Comp Paul Dawson
- Comp Krupesh Jethwa
- Comp Scott Buckle
- Ex Comp Bruce Patience

PROJECT TRANSFORM IN THE ROYAL ARCH.

In 2023, the Craft in Buckinghamshire introduced Project Transform to Centres the length and breadth of the Province. The introduction of bespoke music and lighting created dramatic and exciting meetings which allowed Masonry to be seen at its best. New Craft members and old were wowed by what was possible using lighting and sound to enhance their meetings. The Royal Arch was not going to be left behind and in December we held a meeting of the

Stewards Chapter where we exalted new members using full lighting and sound. I would urge every Chapter to look at how it carries out its ceremonies and ask the simple question: could you enhance or improve it? All centres have the facility to allow you to do just that; all you need to do is turn it on. Let us be the best we can be, not just for those coming into the Royal Arch, but for those who want to see it develop and evolve.

As I said at the beginning, 2023 was a good year. I am, however, convinced that 2024 will be even better. The buzz around Buckinghamshire Royal Arch is incredible. As my executive and I continue to visit every convocation held in the Province, we know firsthand what is happening in your chapters and how much every member is enjoying their Royal Arch. I can only thank you all for making this happen. I look forward to being with you again soon at your meeting and seeing your Chapter grow in numbers and enjoyment.

For those of you who have not yet continued your journey in Masonry to the Royal Arch, we look forward to you doing so. Always remember, you should join when the time is right for you, it is after all your journey. Whatever Chapter you choose, I assure you everyone will be ready to welcome you heartily. Be part of something special and discover why the Royal Arch helps you understand and enjoy more of our wonderful Province of Buckinghamshire and of Freemasonry in general.

Graham

E Comp Graham Dearing

Most Excellent Grand Superintendent

The Province of Buckinghamshire.



The Tyler's Tales



A brief interlude of masonic miscellanea by Ryan Pike, Tyler at Fairway 8614 and Seer Green 9055.

Did you know that in Hogarth's 1736 painting 'Night' a drunken Freemason is being escorted home by the Tyler of his Lodge and as they stagger through the street from the Rummer and Grapes pub, someone above unceremoniously empties a chamber pot on their heads?

Hogarth himself was a Freemason and it is suggested that the person depicted in such a sorry state was Sir Thomas De Veil, someone whom he had numerous differences of opinion with (primarily over the Gin Act 1736) hence he is unflatteringly parodied in the picture. His steadfast guide for the night is rumoured to be Brother

Montgomerie, the Grand Tyler. Around the same time, the Lodge of Probity (No. 61) noted in the 1730's that the Tyler was empowered "to refuse admission to any member of the Lodge who is not clean and decently clad in clean white neckcloth". This lesson could have been learnt earlier this year by the local puppy training class who thanks to a double booking, turned up to the Stewart Hall in Kimble at the same time as the Cymbeline 9004 meeting. Not only did it come as a bit of a shock on entering the back door of the hall to find some fellow brandishing a sword in full masonic regalia but rightly so, they were refused entry on account of not being properly dressed (although one young pooch did sport a fine white bib).

Some years later, The Lodge of St John (No. 279) of Leicester, resolved in 1791 that the Tyler be clothed

at the expense of the Lodge with a blue coat and waistcoat and corduroy breeches, the whole with yellow buttons, a pair of white stockings, and a three-cornered hat and that he be furnished with a hairy cap to wear on public occasions (the latter to remain the property of the Lodge). As 'Project Transform' continues to be rolled out in Buckinghamshire with spectacular scenes within the Lodge, perhaps this could add to the sense of occasion outside of the door as well?

And finally, did you know that in the Lodge of Scoon and Perth in the 1830's, it was agreed that to add to the ferocity of the appearance of the Tyler, a fake moustache was supplied and sometime later a beard was adorned to make him a 'formidable person'. To save funds for the Lodges I tyle for, I can assure you that mine is 'homegrown'.



Anno Lucis

Latin for "In the Year of Light." Used by Ancient Craft Masonry for dating their documents. The Anno Lucis calendar commences with the creation of the world according to a literal interpretation of the dates provided in the Old Testament.

During your Masonic career you may have heard mentioned two date terms "Anno Lucis" and "Anno Domini"

When a Grand Lodge certificate is presented they are mentioned, and you may have heard them used at the Provincial Grand Lodge meeting. Anno Domini, 'The year of the Lord' will be familiar to most but what does Anno Lucis mean and why do we use it? This short Solomon article sheds some Masonic light on that very question.

What happened at nine o'clock on Saturday, 23rd October 4004 BC? The world was born and Masonic time began; adding 4000 years to our 'common time' for Members of the Craft and Royal Arch. Similarly, other Orders have different calendars, each with a unique start date.

Craft Masonry's Calendar uses the abbreviation, A.L. for Anno Lucis, meaning the 'Year of Light'. Signifying the moment of creation, described in Genesis and epitomised by the words God said,

'Let there be light: and there was light.' Symbolically connecting the creation of material light with the birth of Masonic spiritual and intellectual light in the Candidate. Anno Lucis was based upon a simple chronological calculation, which used the Bible to count backwards to discover the moment of creation. It was the work of two 17th Century luminaries. One an academic, John Lightfoot, Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University and the other a cleric, Bishop James Ussher, the Anglican Archbishop of Armagh and the Primate of All Ireland. They determined that, '*Heaven and earth, centre and circumference, were created all together, in the same instant, and clouds full of water,*' and that '*This work took place, and man was created, by the Trinity on 23rd October, 4004 B.C., at nine o'clock in the morning.*' Amazing!

This date soon became accepted as religious orthodoxy and scientific fact and was subsequently

incorporated into the text, heading and margin notes of the new edition of the King James Bible printed in 1701; only a few years before the formation of the Premier Grand Lodge of England, on 24th June 1717. As to the reason for its further Masonic simplification to 4000 BC is not known, the rationale having been lost in the mists of time, although it is fair to say it conformed with the popular scientific and religious thinking of the time. Given that the birth of geology and the challenge to religious orthodoxy was still thirty years away and Charles Darwin's book, *On the Origin of Species* would not be published for around 140 years.

There are many more short articles in Solomon, all there to add depth and substance to your Masonic knowledge of both The Craft and The Royal Arch. Simply log in to solomon.ugle.org.uk, create an account and take advantage of this vast repository of information.

BIG just keeps getting bigger!

Brethren, we are excited to unveil the upcoming membership initiative, BIG 1-2-3. We promise an experience that builds on the resounding success of its predecessors, the original BIG, Twelve Days of Christmas, 12DX, and Pretty BIG.

Following the triumph of the recent 'Bring a Friend' events in Slough and Bletchley, which saw an overwhelming response with over 70 potential candidates for Freemasonry making connections through existing members, the anticipation for BIG 1-2-3 is palpable. The Province is buzzing with energy, and there's a noticeable demand for ceremonies across the lodges.

Scheduled for an all-day extravaganza on Saturday, June 29th, at the iconic Freemasons Hall in London, BIG 1-2-3 is designed to be inclusive, allowing every lodge within the Province to take part. The event promises an unforgettable day of initiation and celebration, with new members being welcomed into the fold. However, BIG 1-2-3 isn't just another Initiation event. Additionally, Lodges are encouraged to bring Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts to partake in unparalleled multiple Passing and Raising ceremonies. These ceremonies, set to take place in the majestic Grand Temple, will be conducted by the Provincial Grand Master and his team, offering a once-in-a-lifetime experience to all attendees.

As the Province gears up for this grand event, lodges are urged not to delay. Reach out to your VO, XO, and Chain today to glean more details about how you can be an integral part of BIG 1-2-3.

Stay tuned for more information in the coming weeks, as we prepare to make BIG 1-2-3 a landmark event that will be remembered for years to come. Together, let's make history again!





BIG 1-2-3





Freemasonry is the gift that keeps on giving

As December drew to a close, the Province had much to celebrate – not least the 60 new initiates that joined the Buckinghamshire Freemasons as part of the Twelve Days of Christmas initiative (12DX). Buckinghamshire, as a whole, had an incredible few weeks. 12DX was led by three extraordinary Freemasons Bros Lloyd, Dan, and Mark. They worked tirelessly to ensure that our freshly minted brothers enjoyed an unforgettable evening with each of their individual lodges.

12DX has capped a fantastic and record breaking year for Buckinghamshire Freemasonry. Having fully embraced the MW Pro Grand Master's challenge to conduct multiple ceremonies and share our love for Freemasonry with others, the quantity of candidates initiated as part of this initiative is matched only by the high quality of the initiates themselves and the enthusiasm of the lodges who participated. Well done to all involved.

Neil Robertson
Deputy Provincial Grand Master



12DX kicked off in magnificent style at **Eric Deung Lodge of History and Research**. W Bro Grae initiated and in doing so, symbolically “delivered the gift of Freemasonry” to Bro Lester.

W Bro Phil, the head of **Cliveden Lodge**, welcomed in two new candidates to Freemasonry. Bro Taras and Bro Javed are pictured with new lifelong friends at Beaconsfield Masonic Centre on their special evening. We think that they will travel far and wide together and enjoy their journey through Freemasonry enormously.



W Bro Neil, the head of **Heatherden Lodge**, presented the Gift of Freemasonry to Bro Muhammad in a spectacular ceremony at Slough Masonic Centre. Members of the lodge are pictured in front of the lodge banner. Heatherden has introduced four new people into Freemasonry this year and will have two more prospective candidates join early next year! Onwards and upwards, Heatherden!



At **Hall Barn Lodge** in Marlow, the head of the lodge delivered a first-class ceremony of initiation for Bro Octavian.



Bro Michael received a warm welcome at **Chenies Lodge** in the beautiful setting of the lodge room at Beaconsfield. It is a stunning location to see, with its vaulted ceiling, spiral staircase at the entrance, and second level, which is decorated with banners and houses the ancient standard for the Hallstone Province of Buckinghamshire.



On the same evening, in Aylesbury, **Pegasus Lodge** delivered the gift of Freemasonry to their newly made brother in style. Bro Richard said afterwards how appreciative he was of everyone's efforts to make his day so special.



Thrice Lewis's for the Province in less than 24 hours!

Visitors to **Wendover Lodge**, were treated to a ceremony by Bro Jesse, who took the big chair to initiate his two sons. Bros Albert and John are 2nd generation Freemasons and therefore referred to as Lewis's. The head of the lodge, W Bro Jordan, was delighted to see them receive the Gift of Freemasonry and said, *"This is a fitting end to the year for our lodge. We cannot wait to see what 2024 will bring."*



It was great to see Buckinghamshire see a third Lewis made in as many days when, in a moving ceremony, W Bro Jim at **Thames Mariner Lodge** initiated his son Bro Harry.



My standout moment was at Slough Daylight Lodge. I saw some of the best ceremonial work ever seen and that it was amazing to see younger Masons carrying out parts of the ceremony that were previously reserved for more senior members. The candidates and everyone in attendance enjoyed a memorable morning that they will remember for many years.

Lloyd Harrison
Provincial Senior Grand Warden

Meanwhile, after performing a double-raising ceremony in the early hours, **Slough Daylight Lodge** initiated Bro Malcolm. Bro. Gerrit, a fellow South African, finished the meeting by presenting Bro Malcolm with his provincial welcome pack. Both ceremonies were so beautifully done that the whole meeting was able to be finished in under three hours without hurrying through the ceremonies.

Super Saturday

At Wolverton Masonic Centre, visitors saw **Wolverton Trinity Lodge** play host to visitors from **Milton Keynes Lodge**, who helped perform the ceremony of initiation for their candidate. It is a tremendous way for lodges to not only visit one another but also to collaborate for the betterment of Freemasonry. The candidate, Bro Adrian, enjoyed a first-class ceremony and a lively seasonal Festive Board afterwards.



In Stony Stratford, Bros Graham and Nevil were welcomed to **Roman Way Lodge**. Several new lodge members were thrilled to be a part of this ceremony since they had recently been initiated into Freemasonry. One said, *"Seeing this ceremony for the first time since I was initiated was fascinating. I can still remember my day, and I hope that my new brothers carry that experience forward, as have I."*



Elsewhere in the Hallstone Province, we saw our great friends from Lincolnshire Freemasons Free Wheelers Lodge, and the Widows Sons from Oxon and Berkshire take a ride out to the **Buckinghamshire Motorcycle Lodge**. They enjoyed a first-class pair of initiation ceremonies for biker Bros Antonio and Theo.

The standout moment for me was the Bucks Motorcycle Lodge carrying out a double initiation with no rehearsal and no hiccups!!! That and having the Primus master and current (2nd) master of the Freewheelers Lodge in Lincolnshire travel down to visit us for this special meeting.

Dan Cunningham
Provincial Junior Grand Warden



Oh Brother, My Brother!

Freemasons travelled from all around the country last night to watch one of the highlights of 12DX, the Head of the **Chalfont St. Peter Lodge** initiating his younger brother. He delivered the ceremony flawlessly, and, like any elder brother, he left a large pair of boots for his younger sibling to fill later.



Bro Sunny, the initiate, was treated to a meeting unlike any other; from start to end, it was dramatic and emotional, thanks to the Project Transform lighting, the incredible music, and the lodge room itself with a vaulted ceiling.

The ceremony included members of the Lodge, members of the Province, as well as a lively and comedic festive board. It was a night that we'll remember for a long time.

The highlight of the 12DX for me was Ranj Sagoo introducing his brother Sunny Sagoo at Chalfont St Peter Lodge in Beaconsfield. Ranj delivered a wonderfully magnificent and poignant Ceremony, with the ProvGM adding a little portion to this fantastic Meeting. We had the Sagoo brothers at the meeting, and then the misunderstanding with the Harfield Brothers, over who was the younger twin! Ranj went above and beyond to ensure that everyone had a wonderful meeting and festive board. Sunny, welcome to our lovely province.

Dan Cunningham
Provincial Junior Grand Warden



*By the 21st of December
44 Lodges had helped
over 60 initiates take
their first step into
Freemasonry in each
and every meeting centre
in Buckinghamshire.*



Electric Scooters

Electric scooters and wheelchairs are an essential tool in maintaining the mobility and independence of anyone who has become unable to walk any distance.

They afford a freedom that is essential in the welfare and moral wellbeing of a person.

It is always a delight to be contacted by the recipient of a scooter and hear their anecdotes of how they are now able to go to the shops, the library, visit friends and day centres and stop off at the pub on the way back! Not forgetting, of course, being able to attend Lodge meetings on a regular basis.

The Buckinghamshire Province owns a number of scooters, wheelchairs and other Mobility

aids which are available to Brethren and their dependants who have incurred limited mobility.

Our scooters, wheelchairs and mobility aids are not sold to the recipient, but are lent for as long as is required. When an item is no longer essential it is collected and brought back into our stock. It remains the property of the Buckinghamshire Masonic Benevolent Fund under whose auspices it is funded and maintained.

Should you know of any Brother or a dependant who would benefit from the availability of any mobility aids please inform me directly or through your Lodge Almoner so that consideration can be given to the possibility of assistance subject to financial circumstances.

To enable us to maintain a supply of scooters and mobility aids, if you know of anyone who has a scooter they no longer require, need to dispose of, or wish to



donate, I would be delighted to hear from you.

Should you know of anyone who needs, or wishes to donate, a scooter that is no longer required, please email provgalm@buckspgl.org

Brethren if you need our assistance on any subject, either talk to your Lodge Almoner, the Masonic Centre Almoner Assistant, or the Provincial Grand Almoner.

If you are eligible for support the Almoners team will contact you to take you through the process of applying to the MCF, or offer to help you from the BMBF.

W Bro Tony Martin
Provincial Grand Almoner
Email: provgalm@buckspgl.org

The BMBF can help with:

- **MOBILITY AIDS**
– Mobility Scooter, wheelchairs, Stair Lifts
- **HELP WITH ADVICE**
- **IMMEDIATE FINANCIAL HELP**
– to relieve those in need
- **PROVISION OF SCHOOL UNIFORM** – to Masonic families in need.

The MCF can help under four main headings:

- **FINANCIAL** – Essential daily living costs, funeral grants, emergency home repairs
- **FAMILY** – Education expenses for children, University scholarships, support for exceptional talent in music, sport or the performing arts.
- **HEALTH** – Medical treatments, mobility aids, counselling, home adaptations

- **CARE** – RMBI Homes, respite care. (homes are operated by RMBI Services and are available to people with either private or public funding)

If you are in need of help please contact us:
provgalm@Buckspgl.org

We Are Here To Help



The Importance of Good Communication

Good communication is key to making a positive impact in our community.

Within the Buckinghamshire Freemasons we have a dedicated team of creative individuals who work behind the scenes to create content and share information on our public channels.

The role of our Communications team is to create content that helps us talk openly about what we do, how we do it, and why it matters.



Getting the message just right.

The saying "A picture is worth a thousand words" holds true for our creative team of professionals. They meticulously choose the appropriate language, visuals, and tone to accurately communicate the values and principles of Buckinghamshire Freemasons. Each piece of content undergoes careful consideration to ensure it authentically represents our organisation, allowing us to establish a meaningful connection with our audience. Although it demands time and effort, their dedication bears significant fruit, as it is through their contributions that we attract numerous prospective members who are drawn to become Freemasons based on the adverts and posts they encounter.

We need your help.

It's crucial that our members understand the importance of engaging with our public-facing social media content. This includes



actions like sharing and liking our posts and contributing to news items when it's relevant.

While discussing and sharing news within our closed circles, such as the successful Concord Facebook group, is beneficial, it doesn't effectively spread the word about Freemasonry to the wider public.

To ensure our stories reach the primary social media feeds of Buckinghamshire residents, we need help from Buckinghamshire Masons on our public channels. Together, we can expand our reach beyond our current followers and help more people understand what Freemasonry is all about.

Find out social media channels via the QR code.

For your convenience, we've provided a QR code that takes you to a list of all our channels. This way, you can easily keep up to date with our activities on your preferred social networking site. Let's work together to share our message and connect with a broader audience, ensuring that the values and principles of Freemasonry continue to resonate throughout Buckinghamshire and beyond.



You can submit articles to the comms team here: comms@buckspgl.org

The Basil Fawly Dining Experience comes to Bletchley



The Fawly Towers Dining Experience is coming to Buckinghamshire. This will be held at the Bletchley Masonic Centre, 263 Queensway, Fenny Stratford, Bletchley, Milton Keynes MK2 2BZ. On the 23rd of March 2024, when you finish work, rush home, get your glad rags on and get out, out, to enjoy yourself at this great and truly unique, never seen before in Buckinghamshire, evening full of comedy.

The Acting team will be mingling with the diners from 7pm, a hilarious and sure to be catastrophic 3 course dinner will be served at 8pm, there will be no Waldorf Salad, (If you know, you know!)

This event has sadly been limited to just 100 Tickets, and the Manor of Swanburn Lodge No 8647 are hosting this event. Please contact their Charity Steward, Rod Shepherd for tickets on: rgn1967@hotmail.com

You had better be quick as they are sure to sell out fast.

Remember why we do this, all funds raised go to Charity.

I hope to see you there....

Mark Duncan
Provincial Grand Charity Steward

The Hall Stone Province Celebrates in Style



On Saturday 7th October 2023, the annual meeting of Buckinghamshire Freemasons was held in Freemasons' Hall in London.

The meeting was attended by 650 members, their wives, partners and families, along with the heads of many other Provinces, for the highlight of the Buckinghamshire Masonic year.

The Provincial Grand Master had the pleasure of appointing a new deputy and a new assistant to join the existing team of Executives. Various other officers were also appointed to assist in the smooth running of the Province with awards presented for outstanding work throughout the Province and in the Community.

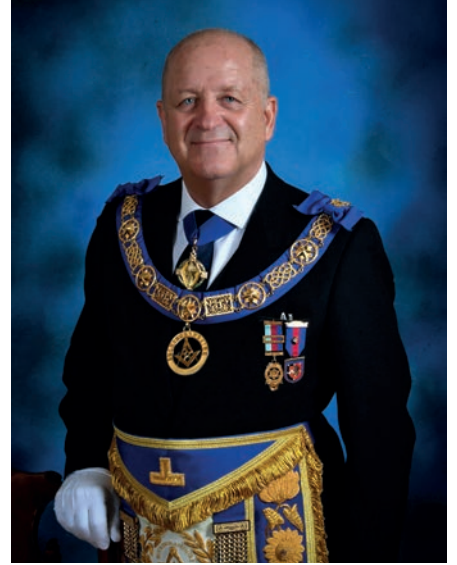
Buckinghamshire is at the forefront of innovative ideas including the new Project Transform light and sound system, along with initiatives such as "Bring a Friend" to introduce new members, and the "Twelve Days of Christmas" to enable more members to join. We also work closely with United Grand Lodge of England to maintain the four important values that help define our path through life: Integrity, Friendship, Respect and Service.

Buckinghamshire lead the way in special interest Lodges including Aviation, Rugby, Curry, Wine, Cricket, Classic Car, Motorbike, Caravan & Camping, Beer, History & Masonic Research, Military Service, Emergency Services, Fine Dining, Country Pursuits, Education and Clay Shooting, meaning there are many great reasons to join. Buckinghamshire Freemasons also lead the way in raising tens of



thousands of pounds for charity with bike rides, runs, walks and even fire-walks.

As the Provincial Grand Master often says, "Be an inspiration to younger people in your community, and lead by example. We are Freemasons who volunteer our time to help charitable organisations in need. We excel in helping others!"



Project Transform – Freemasonry Transformed to a new level

Project Transform has changed the way we do Freemasonry in Bucks with the addition of lighting and music systems now installed at many of our major centres. With the assistance of W Bro Tim Anders, the Provincial Grand Master carrying out many of the ceremonies, the Light Blues Brothers

participating and of course the many Lodges who have utilised the music and lighting to enrich their own ceremonies, we are enhancing the candidate experience more than ever before. It's time to look back on some of our highlights from 2023:



**SLOUGH CENTRE,
Cymbeline Lodge,
The inaugural
Launch**



Cymbeline Lodge played host to the official launch of Project Transform at Slough on Thursday 23rd February.

This was the very first project to be masterminded by the Provincial Grand Master and Tim Anders, aiming to improve lighting, sound and the whole experience within the temple so that candidates have a memorable and enjoyable experience.

The launch of Project Transform saw a double third degree performed by the ProvGM and Tim Anders with excellent work from the Lodge officers and Bro David Clark. The lighting, sound and atmosphere were stunning and the whole ceremony was one not to be forgotten. A fabulous festive board followed.



Bletchley Launch – St Giles Lodge

New lights at Bletchley illuminates Charlie's view of Freemasonry.

Wednesday 17th May was a special evening for St Giles and their new Master Mason, Charlie Bitowt. St Giles No 8555 were proud to be chosen by the Provincial Grand Master to perform a raising using the newly installed sound and lighting system at Bletchley. Those present were treated to a magical ceremony during which Tim Anders was able to demonstrate how the lights and sound could dramatically enhance the ceremony. The Provincial Grand Master was ably supported by

the Wardens and Deacons of St Giles. As well as performing the Senior Deacon roll, Bro Paul Harrison gave an exemplary rendition of the 3rd degree working tools.

Brother Charlie was due to join St Giles for the BIG meeting at Grand Lodge in London held during September 2021. However, his partner contracted Covid so he was unable to attend. Although disappointed to miss the BIG meeting, Charlie was initiated finally in January 2022.

After the meeting the festive board was attended by over 30 guests for an enjoyable meal together.



Winslow Launch – Claydon Lodge

Bro Damian Leaver, an ex-Royal Marine and valued member of Claydon Lodge No. 9178, has had two exceptional ceremonies leading to his third degree.

Two of them made history, he was Initiated as part of the Big100 at Great Queen Street on Sunday the 12th of September 2021 and was raised on the 29th of June 2023 in Winslow as the first member to experience



the lights, music and drama of Project Transform at the Eliot Hall.

The ceremony was conducted by the Provincial Grand Master, the Traditional History was given by W Bro Tim Anders and Ecclesiastes was delivered by Bro David Clark. The meeting was attended by over 60 Freemasons, including VW Bro Andrew Rainbow the Dep Prov GM of

Nottinghamshire and his son, Bro Oliver Rainbow, a member of Sine Nomine Lodge No 10000, both of whom were blown away by the ceremony, using the new Project Transform format.

Since then Bro Damian has attended his first Quarterly communications of Grand Lodge on the 13th of December 2023; what a start to his adventure as a Freemason!

Beaconsfield – Lodge Secretaries Project Transform demonstration

On 23rd September 2023, secretaries of Lodges meeting at the Beaconsfield Masonic Centre gathered for a demonstration of Project Transform. An example of a ceremony was carried out in a relaxed setting to show off the recently installed systems, led by W Bro Tim Anders, displaying the music the Project recommends using, as well as training the secretaries in using the lighting at critical moments in ceremonies.

We hope secretaries of all the Lodges who attended enjoyed it and were able to take back some ideas on how to create a great experience for our candidates.



Thames Mariner Raising Featuring the Light Blues Brothers

On Thursday 26th October Thames Mariner Lodge performed a raising for Bro Kamandeep Singh Brar, carried out by the Provincial Grand Master and the Light Blues Brothers under the Project Transform format.

The Light Blues Brothers are a demonstration team comprised of newer brethren, prior to taking the Chair, with excellent working skills. The Team have been touring the Province.

After initial matters were conducted the Lodge was adjusted, with the Light Blues taking all the offices; Bros David Clark(SW), Jordan Parmenter(JW), Ashley



Dunncliffe (SD), Charlie Bitowt (JD) and Chris Richardson (IG). An exemplary demonstration of the third degree was conducted finishing with the Traditional

History by Bro Clark and the third Tools by Bro Bitowt. Congratulations Bro Brah on taking your third step in Freemasonry and for being an excellent candidate.



Kimble Launch - Cymbeline

Project Transform was installed at Stewart Hall in Little Kimble for Cymbeline Lodge by W Bros Tim Anders and Paul Brissenden Hemstock, just in time for their Regular Meeting on 23 November 2023.

The Lodge was opened by the Worshipful Master, W Bro Andrew Elwin, and the main item was to Raise Bro Robert Goodhew and Bro Timothy Harris. This was carried out in

a most exemplary manner with the help of W Bro Tim Anders in the Chair and assisted by Bro David Clark who gave the Traditional History and Ecclesiastes. Bro Connor Freeman and Bro David Clark, from the Blues Brothers, acted as Senior and Junior Deacons and they were ably supported by the Officers of Cymbeline. W Bro Warren Marsh rounded the Ceremony off with his wonderful Walking



Charge. The meeting was well supported with many members and visitors present, including 3 Grand Officers. There was an atmosphere of reverence with the addition of the sound and lights from Project Transform which added a new dimension to the Ceremony.

This was followed by a friendly festive board, which on this occasion included Christmas Dinner.

Stewards Lodge Installation

On 13th November 2023 Buckinghamshire Provincial Grand Stewards Lodge No. 9222, held their Installation ceremony where W Bro Gary Brodie was installed as Master by VW Bro Hugh Douglas-Smith.

The ritual was of course exemplary and the packed Lodge room with the Project Transform lights gave a very warm and friendly atmosphere. This meeting was a great example of how a Lodge has taken the Project Transform format and used it in other ceremonies, such as the installation, including the inspiration of using the red perimeter lights, which matches the theme of the Steward's red collars.

A good attendance was evident with over 80 members and honoured guests from other Province's Stewards Lodges.

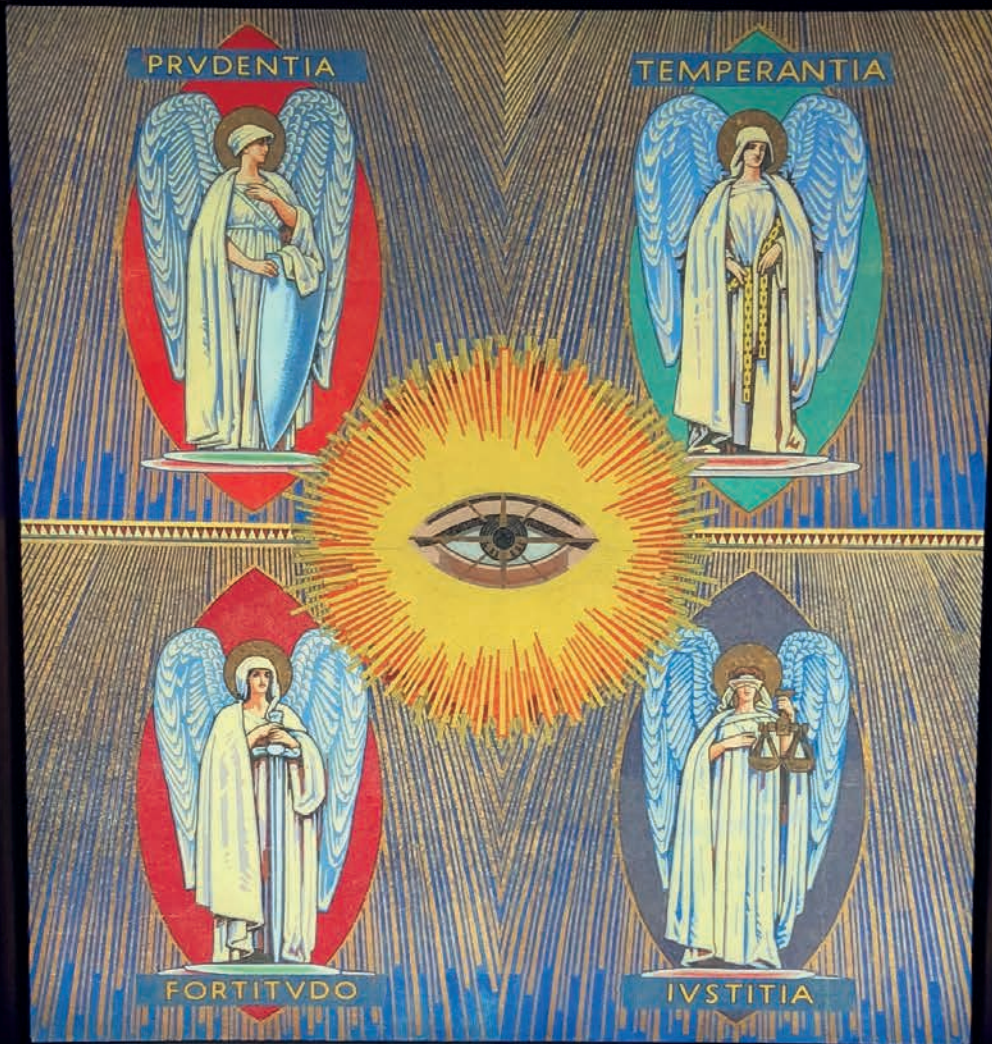
After the ceremony, a surprise announcement was made that Provincial Director of Ceremonies Steve Pratt, not having been a Provincial Steward, was to be made an Honorary Member of the Lodge.



A fitting tribute for all the hard work he does on behalf of the Province.

It was also revealed that during the summer, the outgoing Stewards of the year had completed the 3 Peaks Challenge, raising £3,000 between them. A fantastic sum for the benefit of charity.





Buckinghamshire enhances the Lodge room experience.

In the summer of 2023, John Clark, the Provincial Grand Master of Buckinghamshire, launched Project Transform, a provincial drive to install cutting-edge sound and lighting systems in every temple throughout the province.

"It is my wish that in the coming months every lodge is able to bring a sense of theatre to their ceremonies by taking advantage of these superb light and sound systems."



Project Transform, led by Tim Anders, benefitted from monetary contributions from lodges which were matched by the province and systems installed at the majority of our centres. The effect was huge, and the photographs speak for themselves. This revolutionary effort has already improved the ambiance and overall effect of lodge rituals, making them more memorable and engaging for everyone involved.

Inspired by Project Transform, Slough Centre presented the makeover of their temple in January 2024, which featured a beautiful lit panel depicting the four cardinal virtues from the Grand Temple at Freemasons Hall in London. Grae Laws, Provincial Communications Officer for Buckinghamshire, was allowed entry to the Grand Temple in October 2023, to acquire high quality photographs that were used in the final design. The final piece of art was printed on flame resistant



material and stretched over an illuminated lightbox. The finished product is breathtaking.

Slough Masonic Centre Manager Gary Brodie was overseer of the six hour installation process and afterwards said, *"This is exactly what I hoped for our temple, colour, drama, and spectacle. Project Transform has advanced to the next level."*

The unveiling of the lightbox coincided with the launch of the Buckinghamshire Freemasons 2024 Strategy. Which aims to further improve Project Transform by providing a technical support staff,



as well as properly documented training manuals, implementation plans, and access rights to licenced music.

"Our work is not done yet," stated John Clark at the Slough launch meeting. *"By implementing these strategies, the "Transform Your Lodge" initiative aims to create a more engaging and immersive experience for ceremonies, fostering a sense of unity and pride among members in Buckinghamshire." It is hoped that these magnificent ceremonies will result in many more members wanting to bring in their friends.*

EXECUTIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS

At the First Principals Chapter in January, I made several announcements with regards to the well running of our wonderful Royal Arch Province.

Firstly, I wish to announce the retirement from office as 2nd Principal of E Comp Stephen Knight. The word retirement does not actually seem correct, as I have told Stephen he will be as busy as ever. Stephen has been one of the bedrocks of the executive for several years and we will certainly continue to utilize his experience and enthusiasm to the full. Every role Stephen has ever taken on in Masonry, has been performed to the highest level and he has set a standard which others can only hope to follow. He will be standing down at the Provincial Convocation in March 2024.



E Comp Stephen Knight

Stephen will be replaced as 2nd Provincial Grand Principal, by Ex Comp Mel Shah. Like Stephen, Mel has set an amazing standard of work as my Provincial Scribe Ezra and will be a natural fit into the executive. His character and conduct certainly needs no introductions to you all, and I know you will want to add your thanks and congratulations to them over the next few months as we continue to create a Royal Arch province which strives to be the best it can be.

The ceremony of the passing of the pen



E Comp Andrew Ludlow receiving the pen from E Comp Mel Shah



E Comp Rob Marston, New Prov Ass Scribe E

From March we will have a new Provincial Scribe Ezra, E Comp Andrew Ludlow, who has completed 4 years now as assistant Scribe E so is well versed in the role. Andrew makes an excellent replacement for Mel and I know you will all assist him in what can be a very arduous role. To replace Andrew as Assistant Scribe, I am delighted to announce the appointment of E Comp Rob Marston. Rob has worked diligently in many roles in the province and is an excellent administrator, we know he will be a major asset to the province.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE



Most Excellent Grand Superintendent Graham Dearing

ANNUAL CONVOCATION OF PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER

To be held at the
BERKSHIRE MASONIC CENTRE
Mole Road, Sindlesham, Wokingham, Berks RG41 5EA

ON MONDAY 25TH MARCH 2024
at 3.00 p.m. (*to be seated by 2.30 pm*)

Dear Sir and Companion

The Most Excellent Grand Superintendent, the Deputy Grand Superintendent, Principals and Officers invite all **Royal Arch Masons** to attend the **Annual Convocation** of The Provincial Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Buckinghamshire.

Sincerely and fraternally
Mel Shah, PGStB, ProvGSE.

Companions must appear in full Royal Arch Regalia and Dark Morning Dress, White Collar, Black, SGC or Provincial Tie and Black Shoes.

TO BOOK PLEASE GO TO: www.buckspgc.org (*Online booking preferable*)

If you prefer to pay by cheque, please send your cheque and email address to: Cheque payable to: Provincial Grand Chapter of Buckingham, Andrew Ludlow, ProvAGSE, Provincial Office, The Old School House, Windsor End, Beaconsfield, HP9 2JW
email: provagse@buckspgc.org

COST PER TICKET £45.00

Bookings close on Saturday 9th March 2024

No refunds after Friday 15th March 2024

Heroes come in all shapes and sizes



Heroes come in all shapes and sizes, and sometimes they are forged in the crucible of life's most challenging experiences.

In the case of one extraordinary individual, a hero was not born but made through dedication, compassion, and an unyielding commitment to helping others. Meet William Dutch Holland, a member of the British Army Air Corps, currently serving in the rank of Captain. A member whose transition from the front line of active service to the realm of charity work has inspired countless lives and left an indelible mark on the community.

Bill is a shining example of how the values instilled in military service—discipline, selflessness, and a strong sense of duty, can be channelled into a life of purpose. His journey from the battlefield to the frontlines of humanitarian efforts is a testament to the power of individuals to make a positive impact on the world.

An extraordinary life less ordinary

Upon leaving active service in the armed forces, Bill could have chosen a quiet, peaceful life, but instead, he decided to continue serving his fellow citizens in a different capacity. He dedicated his time, energy and resources to various charitable organisations, where he has been instrumental in driving change and improving the lives of those in need. His recent endeavours include raising money for the Masonic Charitable Foundation during the charity bicycle ride, The Rock Ride, from the Rock of Gibraltar to Buckinghamshire – twice! Also, in November he was part of an expedition to Nepal, supported by Gurkha Adventure, with the Army Reserve, 159 Regiment RLC. He traversed the foothills of the Himalayas walking the Annapurna and Manaslu trails over 16 arduous but enjoyable days. Stopping off at a height of 5,106 meters above sea level, to record a short film declaring his intention to lead an 80-mile sponsored walk/run to coincide with the 80th anniversary of D-Day on 6th June 2024.

Pilgrims Walk

One of Bill's most recent endeavours was an inspiring feat of determination and community spirit. Together with a team of 40 walkers, they embarked on a challenging journey, covering an impressive 50 miles (or 110,000 steps) over two days. With the invaluable support of their dedicated crew and volunteers from the Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity, they overcame torrential downpours and nettles along the way. Several hundred sandwiches and cakes fuelled their journey, but it was their unwavering spirit that truly propelled them forward.

The event, known as "The Pilgrims Walk," brought together determined local hospice supporters, including members of the Buckinghamshire Freemasons. Through their collective efforts, they raised an astounding £31,000 for the Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity. This remarkable achievement demonstrates not only Bill's commitment but also the power of a community when united by a common cause.



Freemasonry in the Community award

Beyond his remarkable journey as a charity walker, he has consistently given back to the community, earning quiet recognition and courteous respect for his service. He was recently honoured with the prestigious Freemasonry in the Community award for his outstanding contributions to Buckinghamshire. This award acknowledges Bill's selfless dedication to making a positive impact in the lives of others.

In conclusion, Bill's journey from soldier to charity explorer is a testament to the unwavering spirit of giving and selflessness that resides in the hearts of many. His achievements as a charity volunteer and his recent fund-raising escapades exemplify the extraordinary impact individuals can have when they dedicate themselves to the betterment of others. As we celebrate his journey, we are reminded that true heroes are not defined by their past but by their present actions and their commitment to making the world a better place or all.

Ham and Jam Bro Bill, Ham and Jam!



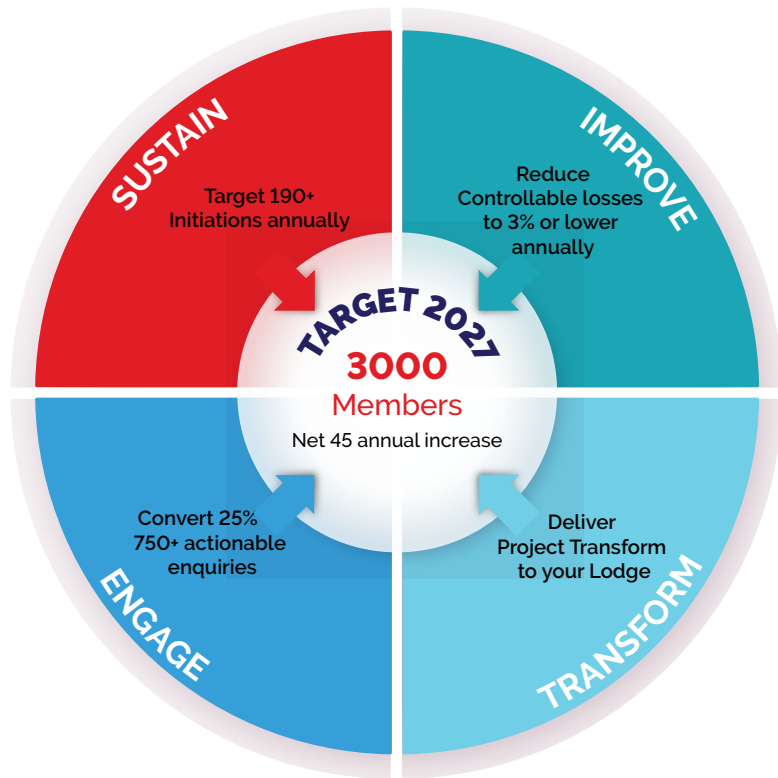
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE FREEMASONS' PROVINCIAL

The Buckinghamshire Freemasons have seen exceptional development and prosperity in 2023, making it a noteworthy chapter in their history. It's a story of devotion and enthusiasm, with Lodges throughout the province contributing to a growth rate that surpassed any other province in UGLE. This exceptional achievement is a testament to the unyielding commitment and enthusiasm of our members.

We've seen a phenomenal increase in membership, which now exceeds pre-pandemic levels. The current total stands at an outstanding 2,821, a rise of 88 members over the previous year. This feat was accomplished despite the administrative task of processing over 40 historical resignations from previous years, a necessary step in the cleansing of our membership records facilitated by the successful deployment of Hermes.

Buckinghamshire saw a 3% growth rate and had the greatest ratio of initiates to members. Significant efforts were undertaken to reduce controlled losses, which resulted in the lowest levels in many years. Our unwavering goal is to attain 3,000 members by 2027, in line with the Pro Grand Master's vision that a strong membership is the foundation that enables our brothers to focus on the values of Integrity, Friendship, Respect and Service within our community.

For 2024, we focus on further enhancing member experience and introducing innovative initiatives. Buckinghamshire's stance is firm on modernizing our approach to charity, community involvement and communication while continuing to honour Freemasonry's traditions.



We ask all Lodges to:

- 1| Embrace Project Transform:** Enhance the theatricality of our ceremonies, making them more engaging and memorable.
- 2| Nurture Members:** Continue to support and retain our members, ensuring their continuous dedication and satisfaction.
- 3| Partner with Province:** Work closely with the Provincial teams to deliver the "Lodge Membership Challenge."
- 4| Deliver the 'Wow' Factor:** Create a joyful and convivial atmosphere, recognising that a happy lodge is an appealing lodge. To quote the excellent Household Division Lodge, " *Make it fun and they will come.*"

STRATEGY FOR 2024: ACCELERATING SUCCESS

Despite the overall membership success of 2023, 38 Lodges had a decrease in numbers. As part of the Lodge Membership Challenge, each Lodge has received a personalised summary of their history and present membership status, augmented by assistance from your VO, XO,

and Chain. Imagine what levels of success we might achieve if each Lodge surpassed this challenge!

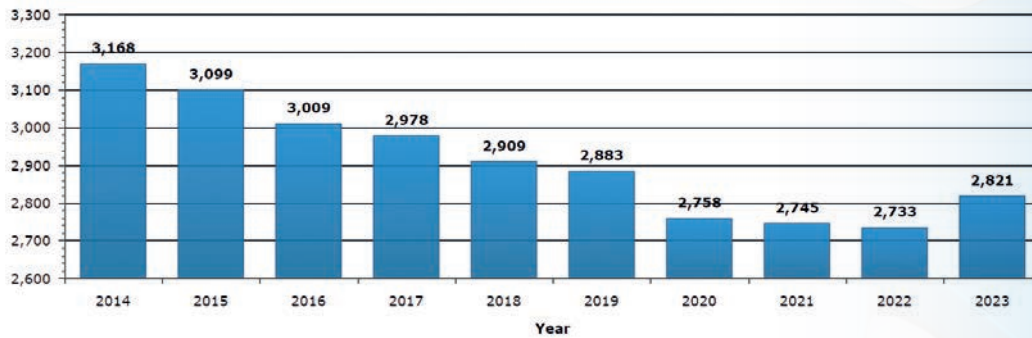
In conclusion, the Provincial Strategy for 2024 is about leveraging our past achievements to fuel future success. It's about each

member and Lodge contributing to a collective effort that not only meets but exceeds our ambitious targets. Together, we can ensure that the Buckinghamshire Freemasons remain a thriving, growing, and integral part of our communities.

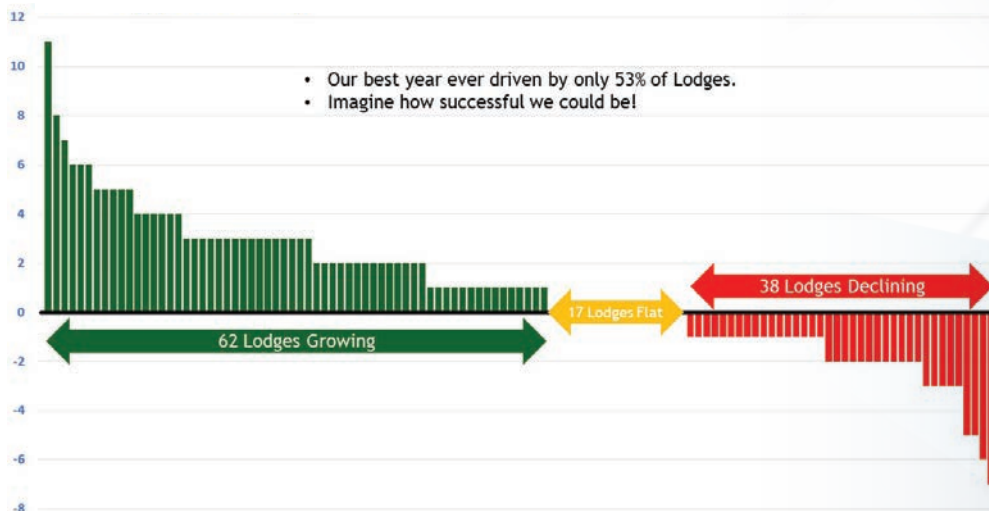


Where are we now

Craft - Members



Our Opportunity





Stephens Lodge Brothers Raising

Stephens Lodge holds a very special meeting, after a jam-packed 2023 of Masonic meetings and country walks.

On Saturday 18th November Stephens Lodge Raised the two Murrays, brothers David and Andrew, under the Project Transform format. An excellent ceremony was performed by the RW Provincial Grand Master, assisted by SW and JW, Bros David Clark and Jordan Parmenter, and Bro Charlie Bitowt who performed JD and the third degree tools. Special thanks to members of the Light Blues Brothers, Bros Connor Freeman and Chris Richardson, who assisted as SD and IG.

The Murrays, who were fantastic candidates on the day, have been an excellent addition to the Lodge. Their excellent work in the Lodge room, attendance at all LOIs and their upbeat enthusiasm helps drive the Lodge and raise the positive atmosphere; congratulations on taking your third regular step in Freemasonry!

The Lodge had previously raised Bro Anton Pascuru the month before. Anton, since his initiation, has been touring the Province, and was the first official recipient of the NECC Gold Pin. He was also a victor of the famous 'Gut Buster' challenge at the Upton Manor meeting earlier this year. Anton is proving himself a very able Lodge member, a bright and fantastic addition to Freemasonry, as well as Stephens Lodge.

The November meeting also witnessed two very special agenda items:

Firstly, to W Bro Adrian Tytherleigh, who received a long service (50 years) award for his faithful service to the Lodge and for being its Secretary for many years. Adrian has remained steadfast as a brilliant Secretary even when the Lodge slumped to only having a few members. With renewed membership levels Adrian remains an excellent and pivotal officer of the Lodge.

Secondly, W Bro Alastair Hunt was promoted in the field by the RW Prov GM to PPSGW for working incredibly hard behind the scenes, over many years, for the Province in numerous successful Lodges



such as Stephens, Bourne End, Classic Car Lodge and many, many others. Alastair has helped to arrange some of the biggest events that have taken place in Bucks and has really assisted in driving what separates Bucks from other provinces.

The Lodge also holds monthly walks on the third Sunday of every month. Recently the Lodge has held further walks in Hambleden, finishing with a lovely pub meal at the Bull and Butcher, and Frieth where we sat down to a delicious picnic hosted by W Bro Jim Hunt and his family.

Stephens this year has had eight meetings with the assistance of its resurgence team to accelerate its rapid growth. Next year in June we look forward to initiations of several home-grown candidates, second degrees of our entered apprentices and the Installation of Bro David Clark, into the chair for the first time, in June.

A Truly Unique Occasion

On Saturday 14th October, Bucks played host to a truly unique meeting.

Old Wycombiensian Lodge 6754 (The Lodge of the Royal Grammar School in High Wycombe) met at the school for the installation of the 75th Master of the Lodge. The event was made more special by the fact that the master in question was RW Bro Anthony Howlett-Bolton, Provincial Grand Master of Berkshire.

Bucks and Berks have a great relationship and the Provincial Grand Masters are great friends. But as is often the case, friendship sparks good-natured rivalry. This meeting was no exception! Anthony brought with him a retinue of Acting Provincial Officers, including one of the AsstProvGMs and the bearer of their quite impressive Provincial sword. Not to be outdone, our very own ProvGM, RW Bro John Clark, attended the meeting attended by his Sword and Standard Bearers, the DepProvPGM, an AsstProvGM



and one more Provincial Officer than Berkshire. Having two processions in and out of the Lodge was quite a sight and a tough ask for the Provincial DCs!

To add to the even more unique occasion, Anthony was installed into the chair of the Lodge by RW Bro Willie Shackle. To see a RW Bro install a RW Bro is certainly unusual but to see it done flawlessly and in a word perfect manner was a sight to behold.

A festive board for 85 people followed with excellent food and drink organised by Derrick Ardron. We also had close up magic from the excellent Dale Harrison, an Entered

Apprentice from Magiovinium Lodge, who wowed the crowd throughout the drinks and festive board. It is certainly a meeting not to be forgotten and unlikely to ever be repeated. Thank you to everyone who attended, especially the Provincial Officers from both Berkshire and Buckinghamshire.

If you are an old boy of the Royal Grammar School, a current or ex-teacher or have a child or brother who attended then please feel free to come and join this wonderful Lodge.

W Bro Matt Perkins AsstProvGM

Bletchley Masonic Centre Ladies Luncheon Club

Every year the ladies' luncheon club meet up in each month of January to May and then September to December. This has been the Club's 16th year. We have 46 members at the time of writing and new members are always most welcome.

In May we enjoyed 'All Things Royal' with Stephen Hearn, Auctioneer, visiting us again. Ladies brought along some of their Royal memorabilia which Mr Hearn kindly incorporated into his interesting presentation.

Following our summer break we returned in September to learn all about Woburn Abbey's association with the first Afternoon Tea. Simon Pestell, House Manager, gave a very interesting and informative presentation entitled 'Two Centuries of Afternoon Tea'.

Ladies gathered together for a social occasion in October. A Fun Quiz covering many topics was much enjoyed during the afternoon.

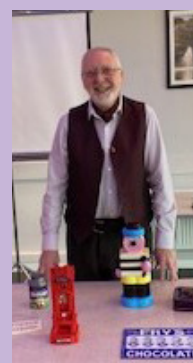
In November much wondering and amusement

took place trying to guess "Who is Who?" from members' childhood photographs. After a lovely lunch, Kevin Varty presented 'Sweet Memories...don't get me started on Wagon Wheels'. Ladies recognised many sweets we had eaten and we learnt a good deal about the history and production of many, together with amusing anecdotes.

The Rock Chorus ladies and gentlemen entertained us very well after our festive meal in December. We enjoyed their varied number of songs, some of which included actions and torches, together with their infectious enthusiasm.

We are all now looking forward to the forthcoming festivities with family and friends. Next year's programme of activities, socials and entertainment is well under way.

We have continued to support the local Food Cupboard with food donations and have supported other charities too.



Nomadic Lodge's "Summer outing"



Nomadic Lodge's "Summer outing" in July 2023, was to Watchet in Somerset.

Members gathered at the Hoburn Blue Anchor holiday site in order to Pass Bro Robin Morgan-Gill. Bro Robin was initiated into the Nomadic Lodge, in his home county of Cornwall. His next step was arranged to take place somewhere half-way(ish) for other Lodge members and Robin.

The ceremony was conducted with sincerity and some good humour, and Bro Robin was very pleased to have his step-father present. Steve Hole, the Lodge Almoner, has not been enjoying good health, so it was good for Steve to be able to attend the ceremony and see Robin Passed to the Second Degree.

Members of the Nomadic Lodge enjoy their camping experience with all types of different units.



Motor homes, caravans, trailer-tents and traditional tents. On this particular event, some made use of the camping pods provided on site by the holiday park.

The Nomadic Lodge welcomes any masons (or non-masons) into the Lodge, so if you are interested please contact David Outtram, Lodge Secretary, David-o@thewillow1994.co.uk.

The pictures above show the "Tent-ple" being prepared, and the festive board afterwards enjoyed within the same structure.

In the picture of the temple, from left to right W Bro David Cooper (SW) W Bro David Outtram PPGReg (Som), W Bro Martin Weller (WM Nomadic Lodge) and Bro Yashpaul Anderson (JW).

There are a variety of legs belonging to unspecified masons too!

Danny Peacock is the embodiment of Freemasonry!

Initiated into Cestreham Lodge No.6674 on 3rd May 2018, he quickly came to embrace everything this wonderful institution offers.

He rapidly became an outstanding ritualist, contributing above and beyond to ceremonies at Cestreham. However, this article is about his charitable work. We all know charity is the distinguishing character of a Freemason's heart and is something Danny already had deeply within him.

His first charitable work under the Masonic banner was a 24-hour tree sit. Being a tree surgeon, it was a natural place to start! Danny's son, Lewis, (Danny was always a Freemason at heart) attends Westfield School in Bourne End which is a specialist school for children experiencing difficulties with communication and interaction. Along with members of Cestreham, over £1,100 was raised for school funds. A fantastic effort.

In the last year though, Danny's charitable work has gone into overdrive supporting numerous Provincial Charitable initiatives:

- In May when he joined David Clark of Marcellians Lodge on his "Swimathon" in aid of the MCF. 12 Brethren swam 77 laps (that's laps, not lengths) of a full sized pool raising over £10,000 for their considerable efforts.
- In August he joined the Florence Nightingale Walk. The aim was to raise £16,000 for the Florence Nightingale Hospice. Along with Brethren from across Buckinghamshire, over £31,000 was raised. "My legs felt like sandbags", was an exhausted Danny's comment after walking 50 miles in two days.
- In September, Danny was delivering TLC Teddies to Wexham Park Paediatrics A&E. Danny's daughter, Maddison, had cause to need treatment for a bump on the head at Wexham Park. She was so impressed with the staff and her treatment and knowing her Dad did a lot of charitable work, implored him to help. So, it was Danny delivering Teddies for the children



at Wexham Park.

Cestreham is proud of the charity work it does, being Grand Patron of the 2021 Festival and in supporting many worthy local charities including Bucks Air Ambulance, TLC and the BMBF. Cestreham also supports the annual Carer's Lunch which is held at the Beaconsfield Centre. Hall Barn Lodge organises and Cestreham provides the "manpower" on the day; Guess where you'll find Danny?

He will be serving the people who dedicate their lives to caring for others in the community.



Marlow Ladies – wonderful finale to a great year



Marlow Centre Ladies Club rounded off what has been an interesting and varied year with a very enjoyable Festive Lunch at Harleyford Golf Club. A super event enjoyed by all which also raised a substantial sum for our charity for this year - One Can Trust. In addition, as you can see, a lovely collection of contributions were also collected.

We have a super programme of events for 2024. We start the year with a Cheese and Wine and Quiz in January and then all systems go with trips and speaker evenings. We are a very friendly group and would love to welcome more members. Any Masonic connection, past or present, is all you need to become a member but all are welcome to join our activities.

For more information contact either Christine Dyckes, our chairperson on 07971 905848 or 01494 814991 or Trudy Weller, our secretary on 07956 801836



DOUBLE CELEBRATIONS!



The Lodge of St Barnabas enjoyed a double celebration at their October meeting.

Not only did they raise Bro Kevin Durkin to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason, but the Lodge donated three lots of £500 from their Relief Chest to three local charities! Pictured gratefully receiving their cheques just before their Festive Board, are Suzanne Brown from Al's Pals, Stuart Moulds from Kid's Out, and Trish Odedra from Mani's Helping Hands. Flanked by W Bro Andy Cross on the left, as Lodge Charity Steward, and St Barnabas Worshipful Master, Bro Russell Scotcher, on the right. Each charity gave a brief chat on their aims and objectives which the brethren found most informative and very humbling. An extremely satisfying evening, which was followed by a sumptuous steak pie and bread & butter pudding!!

St Barnabus update – another meeting witnessed a double celebration at the Lodge. Not only did we raise Bro Catalin Moran to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, but we presented £500 cheques to three very worthwhile organisations. Seen here receiving them are Bro Terry Stocker representing the Prebendal Close Masonic Housing Association, Bro Bob Dennis, a member of St Barnabas who accepted the cheque on behalf of Willen Hospice where he volunteers, and W Bro Paul Halfhide, the Bucks co-ordinator for Bucks Freemasons TLC - Teddies for Loving Care. Flanked on the left by our newly-raised Bro Moran, on the right by St Barnabas Charity Steward W Bro Andy Cross, and at the back W Bro Chris Soper, who acted as Master for part of the evening's ceremony. An excellent meeting all round, completed by a sumptuous Festive Board of roast lamb with all the trimmings!"

Watch this space for news of further donations planned very soon.



ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER

The Province's Big Red recruitment initiative "A simple idea symbolising the enthusiasm, passion and love for the Royal Arch" came to Thame on the 9th December 2023 with Bro Alan



Downie and Robbie Devery, two Brethren from Cymbeline Lodge being Exalted by E Comp Paul Brissenden Hemstock as MEZ to become Companions of the Princes Risborough Chapter.

The Chapter was well attended with The Grand Superintendent Graham Dearing as an unofficial visitor and E Comp Nick Wilson escorted by E Comp Paul Bird representing the Province.

The Chapter was opened as usual by the Three Principals and eulogies were received in reverence for two recently departed Companions.

Then the main business of the evening with the ballot for Bro Alan Downie and Robbie Devery which proved unanimous, followed by the Exaltation which was carried out in a most sincere manner.



I joined this Chapter as a Companion in 2017 and since then 26 others have joined. The Chapter has grown from strength to strength and deservedly so, being always assured of a warm and friendly Meeting in a beautiful room and an excellent Social Board.

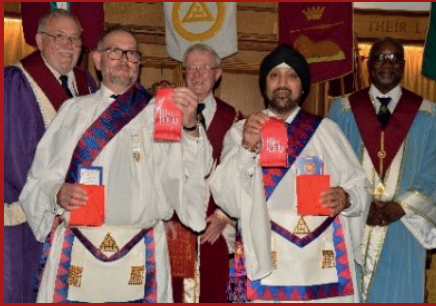
E Comp Frank Duncan

THE BIG RED

SEPTEMBER 2023



A PICTURE TELLS A THOUSAND STORIES



- MAKING MEMORIES IN THE ROYAL ARCH ▪
- BE PART OF SOMETHING SPECIAL ▪
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'A year in the life of a Countryside Lodge'

A story in four Chapters, provided by W Bro Eugene Matthias, covering a year of activities in Great Ouse Valley Lodge.

CHAPTER 1:

'Freemasonry in the Sticks'; A Glimpse into North Crawley's Masonic Tradition

In the heart of the picturesque countryside where the borders of Buckinghamshire, Northamptonshire and Bedfordshire converge, the quaint village of North Crawley plays host to a remarkable testament to tradition and fraternity. Two Masonic Lodges, Great Ouse Valley No 9235 and Cowper & Newton No 2244, meet in the village hall, bringing Freemasonry to the local community. In this article, we celebrate Country Freemasonry's spirit, spotlighting the recent Installation meeting of Great Ouse Valley Lodge and the bonds that unite Masons from neighbouring counties.

The Great Ouse Valley Lodge celebrated its Installation meeting on the 4th of October 2023. The event was marked by the presence of distinguished Brethren from the neighbouring provinces of Northampton & Huntingdon, Bedford, and Buckinghamshire, adding a sense of grandeur and unity to the proceedings. Among the esteemed attendees were the Provincial and Past Provincial Grand Masters of Northants & Huntingdon, accompanied by a Past Assistant Provincial Grand Master. From Bedford there was the



Past Assistant Provincial Grand Master, and from the Province of Buckinghamshire, the Lodge had the privilege of welcoming W Bro John King, Assistant Provincial Grand Master representing the Provincial Grand Master. In addition, as part of the escort team was Phil Blacklaw, Past Provincial Assistant Grand Master, along with a full contingent of dedicated Brethren.

The gathering was testament to the loyal support from other Provinces, fellowship and shared purpose that country Freemasonry fosters. So much so, that the meeting saw a full house with a waiting list, underlining the popularity of the Lodge. The meeting having ended, the Lodge members entertained their guests to an enjoyable drink at the village's local pub, The Chequers, conveniently located just across the road from the Lodge. The

festivities carried on with a sumptuous Festive Board back at the village hall.

As the Great Ouse Valley Lodge embarked on a new Masonic year, Worshipful Brother Tim Freeman took the helm as the Worshipful Master, carrying the hopes and best wishes of the entire fraternity. His year ahead promises to be both happy and successful, as Tim has already planned a social calendar.

Country Freemasonry, as witnessed in North Crawley, provides a unique opportunity for Masons to experience the traditions, camaraderie, and genuine warmth that come with village Masonic Lodges. We would like to extend an invitation to members of the Northeast Corner Club (NECC) to visit the beautiful Buckinghamshire countryside, and enjoy village Freemasonry, and get their Masonic Passports signed.

CHAPTER 2:

A Fairy Story Initiation

On an evening in November, the Lodge had an air of excitement as we prepared to initiate a new member, Mr. Andrew Curtis.

After his ceremony, Andrew returned and was met by the good fairy Director of Ceremonies W Bro Adam Rogers with his magic wand. He said, "where would you like to sit?" Bro Andrew looked around, and his gaze fell on a big chair in front of him; he said "there, in that big chair".

The good fairy Director of Ceremonies waved his magic wand with a flourish. In

that instant, the Worshipful Master, W Bro Tim Freeman, appeared in all his splendour. W Bro Tim Freeman extended his hand to Brother Andrew and said, "You shall have your wish, my brother."

With those words, he placed the Gavel into Bro Andrew's hand and said "this is a symbol of leadership and responsibility within our Lodge. Look around this room, for if you work diligently, one day, this will all be yours to look after, protect, and guide."

Everyone had a great evening with food and wine, and they all lived happily ever after.



CHAPTER 3:

Embracing the Spirit of Giving

At the heart of our Lodge's community lies a commitment to compassion, generosity and a shared sense of responsibility to charity. Over the past year, we have stood united in our efforts to make a positive impact, supporting nine charities with donations of £3662.48. As we embark on a new year, our dedication continues with the launch of other fundraising events.

Kicking off the charitable festivities this year was a delightful Sunday lunch hosted at The Sun Inn, nestled in the quaint countryside village of Felmersham. Members came together to support this event. There was lots of laughter as we celebrated the knowledge that we were making a difference in the community and to the lives of others.

Looking ahead, our Lodge is thrilled to announce an upcoming Pig Roast scheduled for 2024; a celebration open to all. This promises to be a joyous occasion filled with good food, good wine, great company, and an opportunity to contribute to causes that matter.



At the helm of these endeavours is our esteemed Worshipful Master, W Bro Tim Freeman, whose leadership and passion for philanthropy have inspired the entire Lodge. He extends his heartfelt gratitude to all who have participated in and supported the charity events.

This collective effort allows our Lodge to make a meaningful impact in supporting Freemasonry in the Community. As we look

forward to the future, our Lodge is excited about the prospect of many more moments of fun and charity. Each event is not just a fundraiser; it's an opportunity for our Lodge community to come together, celebrate the spirit of giving, and contribute to causes that touch the lives of those in need.

Great Ouse Valley Lodge stands united, making a positive impact locally, one charity event at a time.

CHAPTER 4:

Read all about it! Colin and Anita's story in the press.

Our story ends with community support from our Lodge and Worshipful Master W Bro Tim Freeman.



In 2018, Lodge member Colin Jamieson, 59, faced worsening headaches, sickness and fatigue after enduring three years of symptoms. Anita, 45, took him to numerous doctor visits as his condition worsened, leading to a hospitalisation for severe headaches in July 2018. A subsequent CT scan revealed two brain tumours, identified as likely benign subependymomas or ependymomas.

Anita, caring for Colin through surgeries and radiotherapy, later experienced health issues herself, attributing them initially to stress due

to her father's serious illness and managing her parents' farm. Seeking relief from her migraines, she discovered she too had a non-cancerous meningioma, a slow-growing brain tumour.

Despite challenges, Anita remains grateful for their present situation and urges people to sign a petition by Brain Tumour Research, aiming for 100,000 signatures to prompt a parliamentary debate. The charity seeks increased government investment in brain tumour research, advocating for £35 million annually by 2028, aligning it with other cancer priorities.

Colin now grapples with impaired hearing, personality changes and memory issues, lacking a clear diagnosis or prognosis. Anita emphasizes the urgent need for expanded research funding, expressing frustration at the scant 1% allocation from the national cancer research budget.

The couple's collaboration with Brain Tumour Research underscores the indiscriminate impact of the disease, calling for collective action to address brain tumours, the leading cancer killer among children and adults under 40. Community Development Manager



Worshipful Master W Bro Tim Freeman with Lodge Charity Steward W Bro Nick Timmins, Anita & Colin and Emma Jolly from Brain Tumour Research.

Charlie Allsebrook emphasizes the urgency of signing and sharing the petition to advance research and offer hope to affected families.

Brain Tumour Research is a registered charity number 1153487 in England and Wales based in Shenley Wood, Milton Keynes.

Watch this space, as this will be an ongoing project for Great Ouse Valley Lodge 9235.

If you would like to visit us, please contact the lodge Secretary W Bro Brian Stammers, at brian.co-valent@live.com.

Long live Freemasonry in the Styx!

Legends are made through hard work

At the December meeting of Old Pals Lodge, we saw several exemplary freemasons receive recognition and in-the-field promotions.

The membership team is one of the hardest working groups in Buckinghamshire Freemasonry. Under the leadership of John Palman and his predecessors, Mark Harry and Simon Williams, the team has contributed significantly to the thriving membership success that the Province enjoys today. The contribution of the team, to bring in 60 candidates for 12DX, involved the team interviewing over 300 candidates!

Each of the following gentlemen are shining examples of the type of leaders we want to see stepping up in the Province.

Stan Green, a long-serving and dedicated Freemason, Grand Officer, Past Warden, recipient of every certificate of merit possible. He is an upstanding example of what it means to be a Freemason.

Paul Williams, a Freemason of 20 years who has been a strong contributor for many years, joined the team in February 2022 and has interviewed around 200 candidates for Freemasonry during that time.

Ryan Pike, our longest-serving membership team member, is a passionate and hard-working Freemason and a safe pair of hands on the Membership team. We are pleased to announce that at the Provincial meeting in October 2024, Prov GM, John Clark appointed Ryan to the **ACTING rank of Provincial Grand Pursuivant**. This early appointment to acting Provincial rank reflects our admiration not only for the work Ryan has done but also acts as a potential stepping stone to greater things in the future!

Rob Caddick, recent Past Master and new Secretary of Seer Green Lodge,



Paul Williams



Charles Hill

lives in Cumbria but is never shy about jumping in the car and working hard for the Province. He is very passionate and skilled in this area. Likewise, there are two incredibly new Masons, Brothers **Andy Millar** and **Charles Hill**. Each, having been with us for only around 3 years, have done more to help grow the Province than others with ten times their length of service. Each is already blazing a path through their Lodges and are an example to all of us.

To **Rob, Andy, and Charles**, the Prov GM was pleased to promote them at the Old Pals meeting to the **accelerated Provincial rank of Past Grand Pursuivant**. Huge congratulations to all three. The Book of Constitutions permits the Prov GM to convey "rosetted" provincial appointments to special Brethren who



Ryan Pike



Andy Millar

have not yet been through the chair, and it is his desire to do that for Andy & Charles.

Brethren, huge congratulations to these brethren from the RW Provincial Grand Master and the wider Provincial team.

It is the intention of our Provincial Grand Master to convey a clear message to the Province that **innovation and hard work will always be welcomed and rewarded in Buckinghamshire Freemasonry**. We are pleased to update a few old traditions as the moments arise and invite others to follow in the footsteps of these hardworking brothers if they seek similar rewards.



Family and friends celebrate Christmas with St Giles Lodge.



W. Bro. Wayne Bentley, Carmen Cain, Waynes's wife Jackie



Kelly Jo who sang hits from the 60s to the 90's



St Giles Master W. Bro. Martin Robinson with his children

St Giles Celebrates

St Giles held their annual White Table meeting on the 20th December.

It was an opportunity for family and friends to celebrate Christmas with the Lodge. This year we were entertained by Kelly Jo, who sang songs from the 1960's to the 1990's.

Last year's Master Wayne Bentley, presented a cheque for £7000 to Carmen Cain from PTSD Resolve. The Charity arranges mental health support for UK forces veterans, reservists & their families through 200 therapists across the UK. The donation was raised during Wayne's year and is a charity close to his heart as a retired serviceman.

Our present Master, Martin Robinson, had a good start to his year as the White Table raised £1000 for his chosen charity, MK Food Bank.

The White Table was another successful event with more planned during Martin's year. 2024 marks the 50th year since the consecration of St Giles, 20th of April 1974, so promises to be a busy year of celebrating for members of the Lodge.

Buckinghamshire Masonic Researcher honoured.

In November, a Buckinghamshire Freemason, W Bro David J Peck, was honoured by being installed as the Worshipful Master of the Premier Lodge of Masonic Research, "Quatuor Coronati No. 2076", in Freemasons' Hall in London.

This is a demanding role not only as a Lodge WM but in assisting with the Lodge's Correspondence Circle with over 1000 members worldwide. On the day of his installation, David presented his Inaugural Lecture on Sir Charles Throckmorton (1757-1840), an 18th Century Freemason, medical student and detainee during the Napoleonic



Wars, who was the younger brother of Sir John Throckmorton (1754-1819) the first person to hold the title of Provincial Grand Master for Buckinghamshire. David's installation was attended by the Grand Master of the Regular Grand Lodge of Italy, the Provincial Grand Master for Shropshire plus brethren from the USA, Australia, Panama and Scotland. Once the Lodge was closed the brethren were joined by wives and non-masons to hear David's Inaugural Lecture. This is David's second paper on the Throckmorton family, which will be published next year. David continues to give talks to Lodges all over England and the Sir Charles one will now be added to his repertoire.

After his installation, David had the pleasure of presenting the Norman B Spencer Prize to Bro Ariel Weinmann-Rubino from Panama City, who had won the prize for an essay entitled "Bridge of the World, Heart of the Universe: Freemasonry and the Construction of the Panama Canal".



Ariel was accompanied by his wife and parents, as is the normal practice in many "American" Lodges on the night of an installation meeting. The Essay Prize is a competition open to members of Lodges on the register of the UGLE or other recognised Grand Lodges. Applicants may select their own subject which must be within the fields of Masonic history, symbolism, ritual, biography, antiquities, architecture, or another subject deemed to be of historical importance. Lodge Histories and local Masonic History are acceptable if of wider interest. David would like to see more Buckinghamshire brethren submitting an essay, more detail can be found at: www.quatuorcoronati.com/research/spencer-prize/. David is happy to assist brethren to carry out masonic research and to prepare papers.

David hopes that a number of brethren and their wives' / partner's will have the opportunity to experience visiting the Premier Lodge of Masonic Research during his year as Master, details can be found via www.quatuorcoronati.com/meetings/programme-for-the-year/. The next meeting will be on 15 February and the talk will be given by Bro Tim Blakemore on "The Masonic Allusions in James Joyce's Ulysses". The June meeting will be held in the Masonic Hall in Leicester in the magnificent Holmes Temple and includes a visit to The Thorp Museum and a talk on "Provincial Grand Masters in the 18th century" by Prof Aubrey Newman. Ladies and non-masons are most welcome.

David was born in 1944 in Lincolnshire and attended the Barton-upon-Humber Grammar School. He graduated in Electrical Engineering and became a Chartered Engineer and

Fellow of the Institution of Engineering and Technology. He comes from a masonic family and in 1979 he was Initiated into Whiston Lodge No. 3614 in Cheshire and in 1982 joined Haddenham Lodge No. 8944 in Buckinghamshire. He was a founder of the Buckinghamshire Lodge for Masonic Research No. 9585.

In 2012 he was awarded the Norman B Spencer Prize by Quatuor Coronati Lodge becoming a member thereafter. He is a member of a number of Masonic orders in England and abroad and is the Chairman & Webmaster of the Buckinghamshire Association for Masonic Research (BAMR). His Masonic papers include: "Freemasonry in Malta.", "1940s – Hitler, the Greatest Threat to English Freemasonry", "Sir John Throckmorton: An 18th-Century Catholic Freemason" and "Sir Charles Throckmorton 7th Baron (1757–1840) - An investigation into the life and times of a Catholic Gentlemen, Medical Student to "Father of the Profession", a Freemason and Freemasonry among Napoleonic Detainees." David is very happy to visit Lodges and deliver one of his papers.

Finally, for the readers information, the BAMR library of masonic books and documents was until recently held in the Aylesbury Masonic Hall but has been transferred to a new, more easily accessible, facility at the Bletchley Masonic Centre, being developed by the Eric Deung Lodge No. 9695 – The Lodge of



History and Research. When complete the new facility will be well worth a visit, as is the Lodge.

The dedicated research room, on the ground floor of the temple building, will house the complete Provincial archive of Masonic research and is keen to grow the collection.

If you have Masonic books to donate, in the first instance please contact Grae Laws, the current serving WM of Eric Deung Lodge here: graelaws@live.com



Another winner at Towcester Racecourse



WM of Magiovinium Lodge, John York, and his wife, Lisa, presenting the winning trophy to their sponsored race (others in the picture are his sons and their families plus the trainer, holding the dog)

The 22nd of October saw the latest HATS greyhound race day and Sunday lunch at Towcester Racecourse. Within a few days of its announcement this popular event was nearly sold out and a record 140 masons, family members and friends were blessed with a warm, sunny autumn day.

The venue lived up to previous events with a very good lunch in our own suite overlooking the racing. As usual, there were good and bad luck stories as the dogs sped around the track with accompanying cheers and groans.

This year the day was jointly organised with Magiovinium Lodge in aid of Al's Pals, a Milton Keynes based charity that provides emotional, befriending and advocacy support to cancer patients and their families in hospital and at home. After lunch, their CEO and founder, Suzanne Brown, gave a brief explanation of the Charity and thanked those attending.

The racecourse donated 3 races for official sponsorship and this, along with the money raised on the day generated £2,790 which was subsequently matched through the UK Online Giving Foundation.



Martin & Linda Wolfe (4th and 5th from the left) presenting the winning trophy to their sponsored race.



HATS Secretary, Martin Wing, and his wife, Teresa, presenting the winning trophy to their sponsored race.



Temple Manor Cruise



On Sunday 24th September, along with 2 other brothers, I organised a river trip on the Thames, complete with afternoon tea, for Temple Manor friends and family. We started at Maidenhead, went to Cliveden, turned round and then cruised up to Bray on the return journey. 49 sat down for afternoon tea on a splendid dry day. A good time was had by all.

Roger Hagon, Lodge Chaplain

A MEASURE OF HISTORY

Since 17th October 2003, the night when I became a Fellow Craft and hearing the explanation of the 2nd degree tracing board for the first time, a fascination built within me around the cubit. Of course, we all know now the common cubit is the length of the forearm from the elbow to the tip of the middle finger and the Royal cubit has an additional palm's width, personal to the reigning Pharaoh at the time. Many great Brethren have blown me away with their delivery of that very special piece of ritual. Some had clearly delved deeper and gave well thought-out preambles explaining ancient anthropic measuring methods. The word cubit was not unfamiliar to me having come from quite a religious family and spending many a Sunday at Bible Study in Northern Ireland, but in reality I knew very little about the cubit and these Brethren opened a new world to me about the methods and skills of ancient builders.

Over the years I have read many documents on the topic and looked at various museum inventory records and my interest has never waned. On a recent visit to the British Museum, I was fortunate enough to meet with Dr Ilona Regulski who gave me access to the private storage areas of the museum's Egypt and Sudan department. The storage area was an incredible room filled with Sarcophagi and other burial items but not a room you would want to stay in too long as you can imagine the smell of those items was quite unpleasant. My study item on that day was an Egyptian cubit measuring rod sold to the museum by Rev. Greville John Chester back in 1886. The drawer held another shorter measuring rod and I was able to take both back to the study room for a more detailed review and some very careful handling, photographing and documenting.

Dr Ilona was the lead curator of an exhibition held at the British Museum called "Hieroglyphs: unlocking ancient Egypt" running from Oct 2022 to Feb 2023 and was able to request items from museums around the world to add to her displays. One of those items of great



W. Bro. Denver Lynn outside the British Museum

interest to me was a well-preserved example of a Royal cubit rod belonging to Amenemope, overseer of the two granaries, made during the reign of the Pharaoh, Horemheb. (See image below) Now returned to the Museo Egizio in Turin, this beautiful example was found in Saqqara and dates to 1319-1292 BCE, during the 18th Dynasty.



Royal cubit rod of Amenemope – Saqqara 18th Dynasty 1319-1292 BCE

My fascination with ancient Egypt has in part been fed by being a member of the Bulwer Lodge of Cairo No 1068, which itself has an incredible history dating back to its first beginnings in Cairo on 8th February 1865 and still going strong as a Lodge 158 years later. With many eminent members such as Earl Kitchener of Khartoum, four holders of the Victoria Cross and countless more notable Brethren, it needs a dedicated historian to keep on top of the Lodge historical records. A visit is well recommended, especially for their idiosyncrasies in the 3rd degree which surprise and delight our visitors.

Having a Smashing Time!

– an update on Isaac

Fifteen-year-old Isaac, a budding GB badminton player, has had a busy year representing Team GB in various competitions across the globe. He started his year off with a haul of 9 medals (2 Golds, 4 Silvers and 3 Bronze medals) won at the Dwarf World Games in Germany. The crowning achievement, winning gold in the Men's singles, with all of his competition being over the age of 25.

In the summer months he went onto represent Badminton England at the European Para Championships in Rotterdam. This time Isaac competed against competitors within Europe. Isaac's final game was won in two sets against a French Para player aged 42. Isaac was the youngest player in the tournament, winning a Bronze medal for his country, and is now ranked 30th in the World within the SH6 category, after only playing 2 ranking events.

Isaac, who was diagnosed with dwarfism early in life, has surpassed all that can be expected of any young man. Longueville Lodge, along with other local masons, have been proud to be able to help and support Isaac in his passion. His Mum, Emma, is the mainstay and enables him to attend countless training days, competitions and meets to help hone his skills and better his game. We are also proud to have been able to support him on his path to victory. We wish him every success in the coming year and look forward to closely watching his career progress further.



An Early Christmas for Saxon Lodge



Christmas came early to Saxon Lodge with our wonderful White Table Celebration at The Bell Hotel in Winslow on 6 December 2023.

All Members, their Ladies and Guests including Lodge Widows arrived at mid-day to a welcoming reception drink and petit fours and from this point the festivities began. We went through at 12-45pm to a dining room that was warm and welcoming, the round tables were well set out and looked splendid with Christmas crackers adding to the festive occasion. Everyone settled down with their three starters, it was clear that Philip Menday our Brother and host had made the usual arrangements for us all to enjoy ourselves. This was followed by the wonderful carvery, choice of pudding, a generous cheese board and coffee, if anyone has not experienced the hospitality at The Bell, I can assure you it is not to be missed.

There were Toasts to The King, Our Ladies and Absent Brethren. Dinner was followed by a charity raffle with many prizes, including a Christmas Hamper donated by our Worshipful Master, and afterwards a prize quiz arranged by our Dining Secretary.

An Entered Apprentice is not just for Christmas.

Buckinghamshire Province should be proud of the huge effort and success it has made in increasing our membership numbers.

However, we must remember that once that first step is completed it is only the start of a great adventure for these newly entered apprentices. They need to be guided and encouraged on their continuing journey.

Now that many Lodges have new recruits, we need to make sure that they are included wherever possible. Let's start at our Lodge of Instructions. Not every LOI needs to be about learning the words or practicing a higher degree. The basic movements and the correctness of the steps and signs need to be explained. There are still many experienced Masons who still look uncomfortable when going through basic movements. We need to explain and set a good example to them. The setting out of the Lodge, how to parade in and around the Temple, how and when to address the WM or any other member when the Lodge is open. These are just a few of the items that can be taught in a LOI.

There are so many things we, as experienced masons, take for granted, but we undoubtedly gained our knowledge from our forefathers in our Lodges. Many of those brethren are unfortunately no longer with us. So it is now our duty to pick up the baton and continue the good work of our predecessors. The work starts from the moment our Tyler prepares the candidate before he enters. He experiences a ceremony that he is unlikely to forget. We make him welcome in the festive board and wish him well as the evening finishes. What happens next is very important.

Most of us will not have contact

with him until the next Lodge meeting. That may be a higher degree. In some cases, it has been suggested that as he will spend a good part of the ceremony outside of the door, he need not attend if he doesn't want to. That is a negative step which should be avoided at all costs. Who knows if there will be some personal reason that he cannot make the subsequent meeting and there possibly starts the slippery slope of losing him. It could be months before he re-enters the Lodge for his next step and his interest may have waned. Therefore, every effort should be made to encourage him to attend the LOI.

Have an evening of instruction that deals with signs and etiquette, if practicing a 1st degree then let your EA have a ritual book and read an active part. The more active he is allowed to be, the more his appetite for Freemasonry will grow.

Involvement is the key to success, but this comes with the involvement of those Past Masters who have already had the privilege of learning from their peers, so their attendance at as many of the LOI's as possible is essential.

If we want to keep our Entered Apprentices progressing, then we must all make the effort.



Buckinghamshire Mason Visits Lodge In Israel

W Bro Neil Coleman (Inglefield Lodge) visited Israel in October last year. While there, he visited Montefiore Lodge, No 78, founded in 1966 by Euclid Lodge of Installed Masters, No 7646 and consecrated in King Solomon's Caves, under the old City of Jerusalem, on the invitation of one of the Founders, W Bro Irving Osborne (Old Wycombiensian Lodge). Montefiore Lodge works in English. Most Israeli Lodges work in Hebrew but some work in French, German, Spanish, Turkish, Arabic and Russian.



Left to right: W Bro Neil Coleman, W Bro Dan Cohen (visitor from London) and MW Nadim Mansoor, Past GM.



PROBLEM SOLVED AT THE PACE CENTRE AYLESBURY

Tommy Fleming started his second year at Pace in September 2023.

Management at this special needs school advised us that due to unsafe outside areas the students could not be allowed outside in their wheelchairs.

We received a quotation to resurface three areas outside of the classrooms for £10,800.

W Bro Phil Blacklaw, Past Asst Prov GM, immediately launched an appeal and we are most grateful for the generous

support received from the Trustees of the Wally and Phyllis Trust Fund, Pegasus Craft Lodge No.5637, St. Barnabus Royal Ark Mariners No.97 and the Tommy Fleming Appeal fund, that we were able to complete the resurfacing work during August this year.

The students are now able to enjoy time outside which is being further enhanced by the addition of raised flower beds so that they may also start to develop their gardening skills.

W Bro Tony Cersell PJGD
Tommy Fleming Appeal



Before



After

Freemasonry in the Community and Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity



From left, Paul Brissenden - Hemstock, Joyce Parsons, Andrea Thomas, Frank Duncan, Representative of Florence Nightingale, Peter Parsons, Robbie Devery, Mrs Tim Harris, Tim Harris.



The magazine of this Charity popped through my letter box and within it was an amazing story for Buckinghamshire Freemasons, highlighting the good work we do within our community for charity.

25 Freemasons from 20 Lodges took part in the Pilgrims Sponsored Walk across Buckinghamshire, we had plenty of support from our Masonic Brethren and families, as well as the Hospice charity team. Between us we raised an incredible £31,254, our target initially was £12,000 - £15,000 for a cuddle bed, the Nurse in charge at the Hospice has ordered 2 cuddle beds for delivery in 2024, we will be invited for a photo opportunity when the beds arrive.

The circulation of this journal is just over



Participants of the Pilgrims sponsored walk.



Presentation of cheque to the Hospice.

6,000 or double that of Concord, and I am sure that the Hospice supporters and staff will be very happy with what Bucks Freemasons have done for them, once again highlighting Freemasonry in the Community.

A huge thanks to Malcolm Wheeler for looking after all our needs at Bletchley Masonic Centre where we finished our double marathon two day walk. We were all worse for wear, but the crowd and spread they laid on for us, certainly lifted our spirits. The free bar was also a nice touch!

Lee Lloyd, the head fund raiser for the Hospice sent me a lovely letter which you can see here, the line which stood out for me was: "This is the biggest fundraising gift we have received this year, and it is unlikely to be beaten, Incredible". This is tremendous news for everyone involved with our venture, a very special thanks to Captain (Bro) Bill



Tim Anders, Andy Elwyn and Frank Duncan.

Holland from De Bohun Lodge No 8175, all of our participants, support team and sponsors. Cymbeline Lodge kindly donated £1240 each to Florence Nightingale & BMCF. The money was raised from Raffles at their 6 Regular Lodge Meetings plus 2 Emergency Meetings and the Cymbeline Ladies Night.

Frank Duncan was the Worshipful Master at this time and made the decision to donate to this charity due to his close involvement with the BMCF.

Mark Duncan
Provincial Grand Charity Steward

Marlow Centre Old Folks Lunch



On Thursday 14th December 2023, Marlow Masonic Centre held its Annual Lunch for 83 of the elderly residents in the area

They were treated to drinks on arrival before sitting down to a Turkey dinner, Christmas pudding and mince pies. Everyone had a ticket for the free raffle with a fantastic selection of donated prizes. Father Christmas (Peter Goodwin) then arrived and handed each of the guests a bag of presents which were kindly donated by Bros Tony Carter, and Keith Ward and their wives. Dave Hollis, the organiser of the event, would like to thank the team of helpers who served the ladies and gentlemen and made the day a very special one.



Peter Goodwin dressed as Father Christmas.



Pioneer Family Partnership



Tom Davies, a Tyler for Bulwer Lodge of Cairo No 1068, donated £500 through the Lodge to Pioneer Family Partnership.

They are a fledgling charity based at Foxborough Primary School in Langley, currently fundraising to develop and kit-out a new Community Centre in the Foxborough ward.

When Tom heard about the Charity's vision he was keen to contribute and help them get their charitable efforts off to a great start. Tom raises funds for many great causes through the sale of used masonic regalia, asking for donations from Brethren of whatever they can afford.

The charity will be creating a community hub, providing a place for social cohesion where people from different ethnic, religious and social backgrounds can benefit from mental health workshops, fitness classes, education, employability skills and much more. The Charity's Chair of Directors, Antonia Spinks, said "Yet again the Freemasons have been incredibly giving in supporting our charity work. "Pioneer Family Partnership is incredibly grateful for the donation and will make sure that it is put to good use for the entire Foxborough community".

Freemasonry in the Community and the Bigger Picture

I had a superb visit to the Wheelpower Charity Games on 7 December 2023 at Stoke Mandeville Stadium in Aylesbury.

I met this cute, lovely little girl called Elsie, who was doing archery at the time. She was so good that I asked her to be my trainer and coach for archery. She helped me pick a bow, led me to the start point, told me where to put the arrow, to get my elbow up higher, 'no, higher than that', and to pull the bow back further. When she thought that I was ready she said, release, I am happy to state that all 6 arrows landed within the target area.

I also had a great visit again to the Wheelpower Charity on 13 September where I took a hand powered bike around the track, I don't know how the competitors do a Marathon on one of these bikes as a single lap of the track was more than enough for me!



Wheelpower is the National Charity for Wheelchair Sport, a truly noble and humbling charity which I recommend for support from some of our local Lodges, Aylesbury, Winslow, Linslade, Thame, etc; this could be an ideal pick for a new Worshipful Master's Charity for the year.

Mark Duncan
Provincial Grand Charity Steward

Emma Bird is the Wheelpower head of Fundraising, please feel free to contact her on: emma.bird@wheelpower.org.uk

Lindengate (Mental Health) Charity

Ewan Forrest Gordon and I attended the Lindengate Charity on 14 September 2023, on behalf of Buckinghamshire Freemasons. We had a thoroughly good evening amongst a whole litany of generous benefactors to the charity, including the Mayor of Aylesbury.

Lindengate Charity is in Wendover, near Aylesbury. They had the Lord Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire, Lady Howe, in attendance and she officially opened their apothecary garden at their 6-acre site. The Charity is for people suffering from mental health issues. The attendees grow and sell their own fruit, vegetables and herbs, also pressed apple juice from apples produced in their orchards, home-made jams and chutneys from their home grown fruits and honey from one of their many hives. Their produce sells very quickly and if you just turn up there will be none left! Here is the address of their website so you can get your order in: www.lindengate.org.uk

What better way to back this amazing charity without having to make a physical

donation than to go along to buy their produce. Many Lodges support this charity and have done so for many years. They are looking for further support as mental health is more prolific now than ever before. You can get in touch with a view to a visit and I am sure you will be impressed and will want to make a donation to them.

Why not venture out there to enjoy the wonderful 6-acre tranquil gardens, vegetable plots, orchards and many other facilities.

Many of our own Brethren have used this facility in times of grave need in terms of mental health issues. They welcome anybody at any time and you don't have to make an appointment to walk around their gardens or facility where they have various displays, too numerous to mention. It is well worth a visit and remember your Worshipful Master can adopt it as his charity or one of his charities for the year, their charity number is: 1153868. They have also won the Queen's award for voluntary services.

A very worthy Charity.

Mark Duncan
Provincial Grand Charity Steward





TLC Teddies for Loving Care

The TLC team, lead by W Bro Paul Halfhide, have had some superb fundraising campaigns, managing to auction many fundraising bears for sometimes a huge amount of money which assists in paying for the Teddies.

W Bro John Waller completed the Ridgeway path walk with Family and Lodge members for TLC, raising an incredible amount of money which will again be used for purchase of the bears.

They also had a very scary Fire Walk evening at Bletchley Masonic Centre, which was a huge success. Our DepProvGM, VW Bro Neil Robertson, also took part. He dressed down to simply a towel to cover his vanity, which raised the temperature in the room and he almost doubled his donations!

Bros Danny Peacock and Andrew Mais are yet to complete their Bungee Jump in aid of the TLC; watch out as they will be looking for sponsorship, if you would rather go in their place then we will sponsor you, however, if not.....

Teddies for Loving Care (TLC) was started by an Essex Freemason in March 2001 and has since enjoyed exponential growth with the Teddies being given out by all 48 Provinces within the Country as well as London and Metropolitan District Lodges. To date nearly 4 Million Teddies have been given to sick and distressed children, raising the profile of Masonry and bolstering our membership as a result.

Paul Halfhide's team deserve a special mention for the excellent work they have completed and will continue to do so for the sick and needy children within our Province's Hospitals and Women's refuges. They are Danny Peacock, Andrew Mais, Phil Drye, John Waller, and Paul Carter.

When the TLC Team call on you for your assistance, please answer in the usual generous manner observed amongst Masons, as the admittance of children into hospitals never abates.

Mark Duncan
Provincial Grand Charity Steward



JASON'S PROGRESS

Some of the 'more mature' brethren in the Province of Buckinghamshire may recall the Charity Bike Ride, Rockride 1, held in 2010 from Gibraltar to Buckingham, sponsored by Grenville and Grand Union Lodge.

Some of the money raised in that event went to support an eight year old boy, Jason Felce, who was a student at the PACE centre Aylesbury at that time. Jason's disability is Cerebral Palsy. Our donation contributed towards the purchase of Retina Recognition software installed on Jason's laptop computer which greatly improved his ability to communicate as he was able to spell words and sentences which would appear on the screen.

Since that time technology has moved on and the software has been upgraded to include an audio element which in turn enables him to communicate with a 'voice'. He has participated in a radio interview on BBC radio 4 using this technology, a ground breaking event.

At 21 he met with our UK Astronaut Tim Peake and Lucy Hawking, the daughter of the late Professor Stephen Hawking. Now at the age of 25 Jason has become a Trustee of a charity for the disabled called Voice and in this new role he will continue to lead by example and encourage those who also have disabilities similar to his own.

He is an example to us all and we should feel proud as Freemasons to have been able to support Jason in the small way we have done.

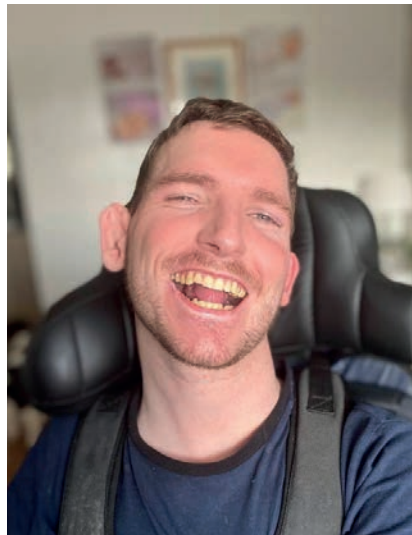
W. Bro Tony Cersell. PJGD,
Almoner Grand Union Lodge

MESSAGE FROM THE CHARITY AND JASON:

"Our team of trustees work behind the scenes to plan our activities. Jason is our newest trustee. We currently have a small number of trustee vacancies. If you are interested in joining our team, please get in touch. "
#AACAware23 #AACAwareness



PGM W. Bro Ray Reed, with W. Bro Trevor Stubbings, W. Bro Neil Gibbard, Bro Frank Mills with Jason (8) and Mum Lorna, viewing the retina recognition software



"Hello. My name is Jason. I'm 25 years old. I use an eye gaze device to speak and for all of my environment controls including my mobile phone to text and for all of my social media. I graduated from The National Star College in 2020. I'm on the Advisory Board and I'm a Ambassador for the College. I completed a Mentoring course with Communication Matters recently I passed Level 1 and 2. I love music especially grime and rap and I always wanted to become a DJ so maybe I will one day. I have a wicked sense of humour and I love having a laugh with people. I'm looking forward to helping out with 1 Voice and meeting you all."



SHELTERED HOUSING CHRISTMAS PARTY

This year's Bletchley Masonic Centre's sheltered housing Christmas party was a great success.

A hundred residents from local sheltered housing were invited as our guests. They were treated to a Christmas meal with wine, followed by bingo and festive music. Lodges that meet at the Centre made a donation towards the cost.

A big thanks to Members of local Lodges, wives and the staff who worked hard to ensure that a good time was had by all.



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Buckinghamshire healthcare NHS Trust Charitable Fund (Charity No: 1053113)

have approached BMCF for a Donation to cover the cost of a set of outdoor aluminum tables and chairs for use at the Brain Recovery Centre at Amersham General Hospital. This will enable patients and their visitors to get time in the fresh air and space for table - based activities. Your generous support goes beyond what the NHS is able to provide and will transform the experience of the patients

BMCF have Donated £650 to this worthwhile project



Asthma Relief (Charity NO: 1063965)

Was set up in 1997 by retired engineer Dave Penman to donate nebulisers to hospitals, surgeries, hospices, residential homes and individuals to relieve Asthma and other breathing problems.



BMCF have donated £1900 and have funded 23 nebulisers and have recently received many letters of thanks from Patients – Some examples are shown below:

Susan: *thank you for the nebuliser which you generously supplied for our son when the NHS could not help further, you could so easily have saved his life.*

Kirsty: *I received a portable nebuliser from you a year ago and it has improved my quality of life beyond all recognition and can now enjoy life like any other 20 year old.*

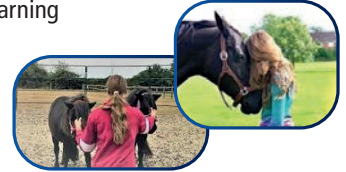
Doctor: *Your charity has been so kind in helping my patient who is a 94 year old veteran suffering from pneumonia.*

From a Childrens Hospice: *Many thanks, we received the nebuliser kits you sent and distributed them to 3 children's hospices in our area.*

Out Of Class (Charity No: 1177441)

are a small charity who take their trained therapy ponies to local schools in Buckinghamshire to offer therapy sessions to disadvantaged and vulnerable or foster children and young adults who have suffered the trauma of violence and rape or have learning difficulties.

BMCF have donated £2,750 which will support 5 places for eligible children



Black Park Shed (Charity No: 1198184)

is a community group of Men and Women at risk of social exclusion who meet in the former Saw Mill at Black Park near Iwer to pursue Crafts & Hobbies in a social environment. There are currently fifty members who are part of the Uk Mens Sheds Association (UKMSA).

BMCF have donated £3,980 to lay a new hard surface covering the outdoor area which is in poor repair.



The Lady Ryder Memorial Garden

BMCF have donated £2,000 to The Lady Ryder Memorial Gardens which were opened in 2012 in Frieth to help children and adults with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) or Dementia to learn and enjoy gardening through working with volunteers in a relaxing atmosphere

On behalf of BMCF I visited the beautiful walled gardens on 15 September 2023, along with my wife Andrea, and entered the new Vine house which had produced over a hundred thousand bunches of Grapes and is very popular with the Volunteers and Teachers of disabled groups. The two renovated Victorian cisterns with new pipework and pumps are completed and holding rainwater and I was given a demonstration of the water already captured in them.



Action4Youth was first set up in 1994 in Aylesbury, opened a Youth Centre in High Wycombe in 2021 and are requesting support for a Music Studio there.



BMCF have Donated £1,500 to this Charity to enable them to buy more equipment and support their planned expansion.

Paul Dyne The Centre Manager writes:

This Donation has enabled us to buy new equipment and improve access to Music Sessions. Young people can now write lyrics and turn them into a produced track, this gives them a focus to pursue their dreams and express themselves. The long-term aim is to train young people to run their own sessions, producing and recording tracks and fully utilising the equipment.

We are so grateful to the BMCF for supporting this project and helping to inspire young people through music and creative activities.



The Milton Keynes MS Therapy

Centre is a bit of a hidden gem amidst the Milton Keynes area, they have superb facilities for Multiple Sclerosis and Cerebral Palsy sufferers. They also help people with emotional issues, phobias, Parkinson's, brain injuries, long covid, autism, and sports injuries amongst other ailments.

They bring in therapists to help with treatments such as Massage, Reiki, Ultrasound, Reflexology, Chiropody and offer hyperbaric oxygen therapy within a pressurised oxygen chamber.

The Charity has been registered for just over 30 years, they have 3 trustees, 16 volunteers and just one part time member of staff who is the only one that draws a meagre salary.

One of the founder members of the charity is still actively involved, her name is Rosario (Roz) Heredia and she is very enthusiastic. All the people I met were so grateful to see a Bucks Freemason within their building and eager for us to support them. Their patron, Dr Vasco Fernandes, said that he would be willing to come along to lodges/centres to give a talk on exactly what they offer and at the same time give an impact statement on what they would use our donations for.

This could be a very good charity for our Bletchley Masons to support, or even one of the other centres within the area, such as Wolverton, Stoney Stratford, Linslade, Newport Pagnell, Buckingham, Winslow, etc.

Please get in touch with Mark Duncan: provgchstwd@buckspgl.org or 07395 031277 if you or a group of your members would like to visit their premises. Alternatively Dr Fernandes is happy to come along to your Lodge meeting/festive board/white table event as a free guest speaker and Mark can put you directly in touch with the charity.

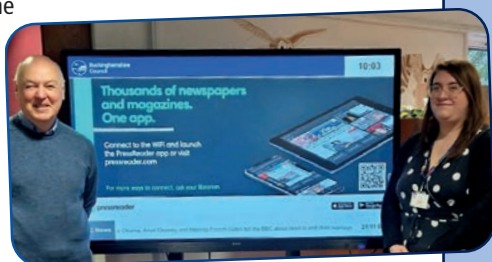
As a Post Script to this article, they applied to the BMCF for a grant and they have been awarded £2,720 to assist with their oxygen chamber facility. They wrote me an incredibly grateful thank you email. The BMCF is funded solely by donations received from Lodges and individual pledges/legacies from Bucks Freemasons.

Wendover Community Library Trust

Bucks Masonic Centenary Fund have donated £1500 to Wendover Community Library Trust for a digital advertising screen

The Bucks Masonic Centenary Fund has demonstrated its commitment to supporting local community projects with a donation of £1500 to the Wendover Community Library Trust. Library services at Wendover Community Library are delivered by Buckinghamshire Council with the support of Wendover Community Library Trust, a registered charity, who raise funds and organise some of the events for the library.

The funds have been used to purchase a state-of-the-art digital screen, enhancing the library's capabilities and bringing modern technology to the community.



Phil Mitchell – Chair of the Wendover Library Trust and Francesca Withers – Library Manager

Young Deaf Activities, YDA, (Charity No: 1088249)

Focused on young people of all ages who are deaf or hard of hearing and live or enjoy activities in the South Bucks area.

Their main aim is to bring young deaf and hard of hearing together to have fun by Saturday meetings, holiday events, parent support groups and other activities. They also provide help to families with home-based sign language lessons. The organizers, staff and volunteers are either deaf themselves or have considerable experience with the deaf community.



BMCF have Donated £2530 to enable deaf children from lower income families to enjoy a day out at Safari and Adventure parks so they also can enjoy these activities

HADDENHAM SUPPORT FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE HOSPICE CHARITY



Over 100 Santa Dashers took to the damp & wet paths of Haddenham on Sunday 3rd December to raise money for the Florence Nightingale Hospice charity.

Arriving at the village hall, all participants dressed in festive attire, registered before taking to the hall floor for a warmup session with the local gym owner.

At 10:55am the many Santas, Elves & Fairies made their way to the start line in anticipation of the starting "Ho Ho Ho" at exactly 11 o'clock. The oldest participant was in his 80's who was running in memory of his twin sister who sadly had passed away. The youngest was just 8 weeks old, strapped to their father's chest in the warm.

An event like this, with logistics and safety paramount for all participants, cannot be done without the help of Marshalls. Haddenham Lodge 8944 answered the call and put together a team to guide, support and cheer on all the Santas round the 3km route.

Despite the damp weather, all had a fabulous morning and raised vital funds to support the Hospice services. Being the success that it was, the Hospice is looking forward to arranging another next year where they hope it will be well supported again, and with a potential plan of two routes of different lengths.





Marlow Masonic Centre Christmas Toy Appeal

The Marlow Masonic Centre once again held its annual Christmas appeal for gifts and toys for Needy Children in Buckinghamshire.

Brethren were reminded that no child should be allowed to wake up on Christmas day without a present, and the response from the Brethren was, as usual, extremely generous. Approximately £3000 of toys and Gift cards were collected.

All the gifts donated were delivered to the charity "Inspire Bucks", which donates toys and gifts to needy children in Buckinghamshire for Christmas and Birthdays. The Charity informed us that there are now approximately 4000 needy recipients in Bucks, and our contribution to the cause was most appreciated.

W Bro Tony Martin, with the help of W Bro Alan Goff delivered 12 large boxes, and a series of bags, to Aylesbury on the 27th November 2023, followed by another smaller load a week later. By the time the second tranche were delivered most of the original donations had already been distributed by the Charity.

Thanks goes to all those Brethren who made a donation.



BUCKINGHAMSHIRE MASONIC Golfing Society

(FOUNDED 1970)

The Buckinghamshire Masonic Golfing Society is open to all Buckinghamshire Masons.

The Society play approximately seven games per year at various venues around Buckinghamshire, both North and South of the County. These are club tournaments for various trophies, plus occasional matches against other provinces. Currently the first match is in April and the last in September.

The Annual cost to join the Society is currently £25.00 per annum, and the cost for the day's golf, with coffee + snack before golf, and a meal after the match, is always kept below £60.00. Members are required to wear a jacket and the Society tie at the bar and dinner afterwards, unless it is a rolling lunch. The etiquette of golf must always be observed.

We are a very relaxed and friendly bunch of golfers of various standards of golf, so should you wish to join this happy band then contact:

W Bro Robin Knock

16 Stewart Close, Fifield, Berks SL6 2PD

01628 673852 | 07733 460 550 | robinknock2@gmail.com

