

Brethren All

November is by tradition, the month of remembrance, when not only do we commemorate those who made the supreme sacrifice in war, but many communities recall those who have gone before, friends, loved ones who are absent from our company, separated by the veil of death.

This evenings toast is of a three-fold nature:

- Firstly, as ever, to absent Brethren.
- Secondly, to those friends and loved ones who have had absence, and in some cases, loneliness enforced upon them due to the current pandemic restrictions.
- And finally, to all those who gave their lives in times of warfare, so that we may live in peace and freedom, and not forgetting those of Her Majesty's Armed Services, who by being separated from us at this present time, ensure that the peace and freedom continues to be preserved.

At this time it is only right that we remember two stalwarts of Mark Masons' Hall who passed away very recently: V.W.Bro. Thomas Thomson, P.G.J.O., the Past Grand Tyler who had during his time served with distinction in the Hong Kong Police Force, and devoted many years to the Air Training Corps, both at home and abroad; and V.W.Bro. Martin Jeffrey Sale, P.G.J.O., who had been a highly decorated Officer of the Royal Navy, and served his Country well. Both dedicated Masons who will be greatly missed by all who knew them.

Brethren, the Toast is "To all who are absent" - "We will remember them".