



December 2020



The PGM Writes...

Brethren of the Mark Province of London, here we are, nearly at the end of another year. And what a year this has been! You don't need me to remind you of the challenges which this pandemic has thrown up and how 2020 has been the most extraordinary year of all our lives. The disruption caused to our familiar activities and routines has been incalculable. There are now so many extra words and phrases in our vocabularies – such as self-isolation, shielding, social distancing, the R Rate – and we have become so familiar with that technological lifesaver, Zoom - thank goodness for Zoom, the new Patron Saint of Freemasonry; that Ark which has kept many lodges afloat, as we navigate our precarious way through the turbulent waters of this current crisis! [Read more](#)



An Interview with the Pro Grand Master

On Tuesday 22 December, the Pro Grand Master, M.W.Bro. Raymond J Smith, will be giving a talk to celebrate the Mark Province of London's 30th anniversary and more.

This very special event is being hosted by our friends at Freemasons Without Borders, and features a Q&A session with the Pro Grand Master.

To gain access to the talk please join the private Facebook group (Freemasons Without Borders) or register your details to their secure mailing list [here](#).

The Zoom meeting details will be emailed to those who have registered 24 hours before the event.



A Heart-Warming Story

The Chef, staff and volunteers at the West London Masonic Centre have so far - with some financial help from the Mark Province of London - provided over 11,000 meals for those in need. [This short video](#) has been commissioned by Met (Craft and Royal Arch) as well as London Mark to show the fantastic work being done by the WLMC.



London Mark Remembers

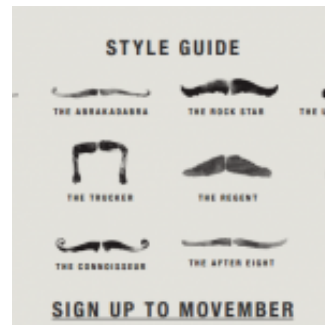
Almost 300 Mark Masons from London and further afield attended a virtual Remembrance event on 11 November. There was an Address from our PGM as well as a dedication from our Provincial Grand Tyler, followed by the playing of the Last Post. Donations totalling £2,750 were made to the Royal British Legion. You can read more about this special event [here](#).



The Provincial Winter Quiz

Almost 50 families from London Mark attended the virtual Winter Quiz, which had been compiled by Attilio Grandani. With almost 100 questions covering a range of festive themes, you could almost hear the brain cells straining!

[Read more](#)



Attilio smashes it!

Attilio Grandani was again doing his Movember challenge this year, and was able to smash his target thanks to the enormous generosity of the London Mark Masons by raising a phenomenal £3,000.

[Read more](#)



Spotlight on... Dr Surjit Singh Bhalla P.Prov.G.J.W.

Chairman of the Provincial Communications Committee, Chris James, interviews a very recognisable face in our Mark Province of London and learns more about his amazing charitable efforts and the Khalsa Lodge. You can read the interview [here](#).

Floating The Ralph Reader Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners



Just two years after they launched The Ralph Reader Lodge of Mark Master Masons No. 1997, those very friendly Scout Masons have decided to “be prepared” and to “do their best” to float a Royal Ark Mariners’ Lodge.

The Lodge will meet “on the crest of a wave” the same day and at the same place as the Mark Lodge, on the second Saturday in February, May and October at Mark Masons’ Hall. Membership will be open to all Mark Masons and Mariners who have had a Scouting connection in London.



If you would like to be a founder of this new Royal Ark Mariner Lodge, please contact W.Bro. Tony Harvey R.A.M.G.R. on adgharvey@gmail.com. He plans to convene a Founders’ Meeting early in January 2021.



"In 2017, Mark Master Masons generously donated over £3 million to help fund 52 replacement ambulances, treatment centres and support vehicles. These vehicles continue to be invaluable to our work and, in recent months, to our covid-19 effort. These special vehicles have been helping to keep local communities safe during the pandemic."

"On behalf of St John volunteers, staff, and the communities we serve, we would like to thank you for your generous support of our work. The vehicles donated by the Mark Master Masons have enabled us to adapt our services to meet the changing needs of communities during the covid-19 pandemic and will continue to help keep communities safe, in ordinary and extraordinary times, for many years to come."

The above are extracts from a St John's Update, received this week. To read the whole article, please click [here](#).



Spanish style roast chicken

This edition's Recipe of the Month is Spanish style roast chicken - adapted from a fish recipe which was given to me by a fish restaurateur in Spain (of course). Absolutely fantastic - enjoy! You can view the recipe [here](#).

John Ellis
Assistant Provincial Grand Master

Dates for your Diary (may be subject to change)

16-18 April, 2021 - St. George's Weekend
8 November, 2021 - Provincial "30th" Anniversary Celebration Dinner

You can keep up to date with all the News and Events from across the Province

(including galleries containing pictures of all the Executive visits to our Lodges, and useful information) by visiting the Provincial website - <http://www.markprovinceoflondon.com/>

Regular updates from Mark Masons' Hall on all the Progressive Orders can be found [here](#).

PGL of MMM of London

Brockwood House, Brockbridge, Droxford, NH SO32 3QT

[Unsubscribe](#) - [Unsubscribe Preferences](#)