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June 2022



The PGM Writes...

This past quarter Brethren has seen a continuation of the many activities I reported on since my last *PGM Writes* in March 2022. As reported on then, the Official Visits by the Chains and myself have continued as planned and there was the consecration of our final RAM Lodge (for the time being at any rate!) – Metropolitan on 30 April.

Whilst it was unfortunate that we were obliged to cancel our Platinum Jubilee Dinner on 2 June, Grand Lodge on 7 June was a splendid affair with no fewer than 12 new First Appointments for London Brethren; and we still have the Promotions Meeting in September when a further 8 London Brethren will be honoured with preferment.

I will have much more to say about our wonderful Province during my Address at the Annual Meeting on 14 July, on which topic I would remind everyone who has still to book in that the closing date is 30 June. The booking link is [here](#).

Do please try to support this great event, Brethren. It is not only the showcase meeting and end of year review for our wonderful Province of London but the heralding of a new season. 2022/23 promises to be just as exciting as previous years – especially the pre-pandemic years; so do come along to cheer on your colleagues when they receive their Provincial Appointments and Promotions. The meeting will have all the usual ingredients of processions for Newly Advanced Brethren, Masters and Commanders plus the stirring sound of the Pipes and Drums!

I look forward to greeting you all on the day.

Mark Well, Brethren.

Tan ☞



Mark Awareness Evening - 29 November, 2022

The Executive will be running another Awareness Evening in Mark Masons' Hall on 29 November. This time it will be an in-person event, and will be held in conjunction with the Kent Club for London Freemasons and the Connaught Club as part of the regular meeting of Burgoyne Lodge (which is the Connaught Club's Lodge).

Further details will be published nearer the time, but please start to spread the word amongst your Craft and Royal Arch friends.

And in the meantime, have you watched the video (click [here](#)) recently released by Grand Lodge regarding the Mark Degree?



Diamond Geezers' Club Dinner

You will be well aware of the MBF Patron Scheme which has been running for a number of years. Mark Brethren who contribute on a regular basis build up to the top level of Diamond Patron (helped considerably by Gift Aid tax relief). Once at that level they become eligible to join the recently formed 'Diamond Geezers' Club' which had its inaugural dinner on 31 March at Mark Masons' Hall. The picture above shows the Brethren of all ranks (all the way up to Deputy Grand Master!) enjoying their first celebratory get-together.

If you would like more information on the MBF Patron scheme, then please contact your Visiting Officer.



Ceremony of the Keys

Last month saw a group of 70 London Mark Brethren gather for a bite of supper at the Monument pub and then transfer to the iconic Tower of London where we were treated to a private evening tour and which included a visit inside the Chapel - not normally open to visitors. Our most enjoyable social visit ended with a viewing of the Ceremony of the Keys when the Tower is locked up for the night - oh, and of course a pitstop at the equivalent of the Officers Mess!!

All of this was organised by our redoubtable Bro. Ameet Watts who had arranged part of the ticket price as a donation to the MBF. £700 was raised in this way and the funds transferred as part of the Surrey Festival of the MBF which is in its closing weeks.

For those of you who were not lucky enough to be included in this visit another is being organised for 5 September, so watch out for notification in due course.

A huge thank you to all the Brethren who supported this particular event.
[words and photo by Tom Quinn]



Bro. Paul Walsh, of Southwark Mark Lodge, is running the London Marathon to raise money for the Royal British Legion - a very worthy cause and especially in this, the 40th anniversary year of the Falklands Conflict. If you would like to support Paul in his marathon effort, you can donate [here](#).

The humanitarian crisis continuing in Ukraine has touched us all, and the Mark Benevolent Fund has set up a Relief Chest for both Lodges and members to use for donations. Please consider giving generously to this appeal and check with your Lodge Secretary / Treasurer / Charity Steward that they also have seen the detailed arrangements for donating on behalf of the Lodge (this will count towards your Lodge's MBF Patronage Level too). Click [here](#) if you would like to make a contribution.

How would you like to be able to donate money to charity without it costing you anything? Well, there is a way to do just that. many people purchase small to medium capital goods (and even foodstuffs) through Amazon, where the prices are generally good and the delivery service is market-leading

Amazon has set up AmazonSmile which, if you purchase items (at the same cost as standard Amazon) they will donate 0.5% of the net purchase price to nominated charities. At London Mark we identified this opportunity and we are now delighted to say that the



system is fully up and running. It really is quite a simple process inasmuch as simply go to smile.amazon.co.uk on your web browser or activate AmazonSmile in the Amazon Shopping app on your iOS or Android phone

within the Settings or Programmes & Features menu. You will be asked for the name of the charity and it is the Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of London Benevolent Fund. Once you have entered the info you need to, you are sorted out, and AmazonSmile will direct monies to that charitable account automatically.

We do hope that you will be generous enough to support this endeavour and to see if, in a year's time, we can show a small donation to the worthwhile causes we support.



R.W. Bro. Stephen Davison

Following the sad loss of Assistant Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Stephen Davison, the Provincial and District Grand Masters had subscribed to a collection in his memory. The picture above was taken at Grand Lodge earlier this month and shows the handover of a presentation cheque to R.W. Bro. Phil Mann, Provincial Grand Master for Leicestershire and Rutland. He in turn will hand it over to the Rainbow Hospice, a children's charity which was close to Stephen's heart.



New Provincial Grand Summus for London

Last month, a face familiar to many was invested as the new Provincial Grand Summus for London, in the Ancient and Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord. Jules Greenwall can be seen in the picture above along with members of the Grand Senatus team.



Provincial Facebook Content Editor

There is currently an opportunity for the right person to support the Provincial Grand Master and his Executive in the area of Facebook content management.

Duties include

- Facebook administration (approving/declining requests to join the group)
- compiling content, based on inputs from non-Facebook sources such as the Provincial photographers etc
- promoting the use of Facebook to publicise lodge meetings.

We are looking for someone with the following skill sets:

- an established Facebook user in their own right
- ability to write succinct and interesting copy
- own a smartphone with a decent camera
- able to post copy in a timely manner
- comfortable with social media technology (in time could go on to work with the other comms tools)
- team player

If you have the requisite skills and are available for a few hours on a weekly basis, in your own time, please contact the PGM for an informal and no obligation chat.

The successful applicant will quickly become a known personality within the Province (with the potential to aspire to more senior responsibility and recognition for his efforts).

Dates for your Diary

14 July, 2022 - [Provincial Annual Meeting](#)
 5 September, 2022 - Ceremony of the Keys, Tower of London
 11 October, 2022 - Provincial Grand Officers' Mess Annual Luncheon

12 November, 2022 - Consecration of the RAF Mark Lodge
10 December, 2022 - Provincial End of Year Party

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](#).

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