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March 2023



The PGM Writes...

Here we are, well into the New Year. I hope that 2023 is proving to be a happy and healthy one so far for you all. Since my last 'PGM Writes' I, and the members of my Executive, have been posting news of our various activities on our Facebook group page and I hope you have been able to keep up with all that reading! If you are a Facebook user, but not yet on our London Mark group page then it's easy to join it. Simply click [here](#).

And of course our [website](#) also contains news and photographs plus a wealth of information about the Province, including forms and guidance for Secretaries, Treasurers, Almoners – indeed all members. Please take a look at it from time to time and when prompted by any specific emails to you. And, once again, if you are not already signed up as a member all it takes is to click [here](#) and complete the form.

Facebook already abounds with messages from brethren who are delighted with their forthcoming Provincial appointments. Please put the date of our Annual Meeting in your diaries now - Thursday 13 July – and do please sign up [here](#) if you haven't already. I hope to have one of our Rulers in attendance. The Pipe Band is already booked, and it will be your opportunity to come along to support your colleagues who may be receiving appointments or promotions.

have an interesting speaker and a lovely meal lined up for you. Details of how to book have been emailed to all Mess members. Also, in April there will be a Royal Arch Awareness Event at Freemasons' Hall, sponsored by Metropolitan Grand Chapter. This will be an opportunity for Mark Brethren who are not members of the Royal Arch to come along to find out more about that Order; plus the chance for you to bring along Craft Brethren who have yet to sign up to the HRA and introduce them to the beauties of the Royal Arch. There is a flyer with a link to a booking page elsewhere in *The London Mallet*.

Sitting alongside our contribution towards the success of Metropolitan Royal Arch is our support for the Metropolitan Grand Master's £3m appeal for London's Air Ambulance. London Mark is organising a sponsored cycle ride (to Brighton), where the majority of the proceeds will be directed towards that Appeal. Look out for details elsewhere in this edition of *The London Mallet*, but in essence we are also looking for riders – so dig out that Lycra all you young cyclists and get into training for this special charity fund raiser!

Currently, a few of our Lodges have been sponsoring the London Hackney Cab Drivers annual support of London's disabled children. This year they are off again to Disneyland Paris. Amongst the sponsoring Lodges are Aegean, Bon Accord, and the Installed Commanders and Masters who have each contributed £1,500 towards the costs of one cab and all the associated expenses of transport, hotels, carers etc.

Also on the charity front, one of the immediate and simplest ways individuals and Lodges can contribute to the London Mark Benevolent Fund is through the 50-50 Club. See elsewhere in this London Mallet for details. Brethren, for a mere £12 (or multiples thereof!!) you can have the chance of winning a tidy sum and at the same time making a difference to a London charity.

So far as Mark and Royal Ark Mariner Masonry is concerned, I am busy gathering names for the Grand Master's Lodge of Instruction Festival on 21 June. This year the venue is Eastleigh Football Club (the hospitality suite, not the pitch!). If there are any more budding ritualists out there who would like to join the GMLofl demonstration team on that date, please get in touch with me.

Your Province in general is in good heart, Brethren. You continue to introduce a steady stream of candidates for Advancement and Elevation. Remember we still have the inducement this financial year that the Province will pay Grand Lodge registration fees for newly Advanced Brethren. As that famous giant grocery chain says, "Every Little Helps!". In these days of potential financial hardship and austerity, let us also not forget that the Province and the MBF stand ready to help brethren in need – so Lodge Almoners need to be constantly alert for situations amongst their membership where their services might be required. The Provincial Almoner David Nunn (davidnunnfrcs@aol.com) will be pleased to offer help and guidance where required.

The number of our Lodges will also be increased later this year when we reponed the former Gibraltar Lodge as a Lodge dedicated to supporting our Secretaries and Scribes. V.W. Bro. Wes Hollands has been working hard and liaising with Secretaries and the 4th Floor to form our very own Scriveners' Lodge. Currently approximately half of the Province's Lodge Secretaries have applied to become Joiners, but if there are any more of you out there who would like to sign up for this morning meeting unit – it's not too late, Brethren! The Reponement ceremony is scheduled for around June this year and will in fact be one of Wes' final achievements during his

inherited by W.Bro. Marios Stylianides – known to many of you and who will be invested on 13 July. I am sure you will want to join with me in congratulating Wes on his retirement from a job well done and in sending good wishes to Marios, as he takes on this important role in the well running of this wonderful Province of London – YOUR Province, Brethren.

Until I see you again on the circuit, at MMH and certainly at our Annual Meeting - Mark Well, Brethren.

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Royal Arch Awareness Evening - Wednesday 5th April 2023



The Metropolitan Grand Chapter is pleased to present a Royal Arch Awareness evening at Freemasons' Hall. The meeting will be hosted in a Royal Arch Chapter room with all the usual positions occupied by officers of Metropolitan Grand Chapter in full regalia.

to answer any questions regarding the Royal Arch following the presentation. There is also a £20 drinks and buffet reception.

Please invite your friends from Craft to come along - they'll need to register [here](#).

Provincial Grand Officers' Mess - Tuesday 25th April 2023



This year's Provincial Grand Officers' Mess Annual Dinner will be held at Bakers' Hall, Harp Lane, London EC3R 6DP on Tuesday 25 April 2023.

The speaker is Mr Lance Whitehouse, Clerk to the Company. His talk will be entitled 'Freemasonry & the World of Livery' and will provide a unique insight into the Livery Companies and their relationship with Freemasonry.

As usual, members of the Mess are encouraged to invite Chapter and Mark Brethren not only to hear the speaker but to experience at first hand the legendary friendliness of London Mark.

The cost of the event is £65.00 which includes a three-course dinner with cheese & biscuits, half a bottle of wine and 10 year Old Tawny Port. As ever, the dinner will be informal: lounge suit, no regalia and no seating plan.

The doors will open at 17:30 and members are advised to be seated by 18:00 as the talk will commence at 18:15 with the dinner being served by 19:00. Please advise Krit Nathoo at kritnathoo@gmail.com if you wish to attend.



London Mark Annual Meeting - Thursday 13 July 2023

The Annual Meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge - the Province's flagship event - will be held in the Grand Temple at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London WC2B 5AZ, on Thursday 13 July 2023.

The Provincial Grand Lodge will be opened at 2.45pm The first procession will enter at 2.30pm All other Brethren must be seated by 2.15pm.

The Banquet will be served in the Grand Connaught Rooms, 61-65 Great Queen Street, Holborn, London WC2B 5DA. Pre-Banquet Drinks Reception at 5.00pm, to be seated by 6.00pm.

[Register attendance / record apologies](#)



Bike Ride London to Brighton - Saturday 8 July 2023



As mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter, London Mark is proud to get behind its Lycra-clad members to support an initiative spearheaded by W. Bro. Marios Stylianides and W. Bro. Peter Lawrence. Usually, our Provincial Grand Master leads from the front, but on this occasion, we suspect he'll be leading from the back!

On Saturday 8 July 2023 participating riders will be setting off from Clapham Common and cycling the 50 miles to Brighton, to raise money for the London Mark Benevolent Fund who in turn will be donating some of the proceeds to the Metropolitan Grand Lodge's Air Ambulance helicopter appeal.

The cycling team will be led by W. Bro. Peter Lawrence who has a track record of cycling great distances (having completed the Rockride 2 from Gibraltar to High Wycombe – a distance of 1500 miles over 14 days - as well as the Middlesex London to Brighton bike ride).

If you are feeling particularly energetic, you can sign up to participate by heading to www.themasoniccharitybikeride.org or alternatively you or your Lodge can sponsor Peter Lawrence.

The 50/50 Club

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE
OF MARK MASTER MASONS
OF LONDON



The 50/50 Club has been giving away great cash prizes since 1999 and provides London Mark and R.A.M. Lodges, individual Brethren and their families with the opportunity to win cash prizes

to the 50/50 Club.

Membership can be either for an individual or in a Lodge's name, and is open to both London Mark and R.A.M. Lodges. The Lodge Charity Steward will be in possession of the form where your name will be added, and the Provincial Charity Steward will allocate your number for the draw.

If you would to join the 50/50 Club please click [here](#) for the background and rules, and [here](#) to sign up. Good luck!



Grand Master's Lodges of Instruction

The GMLol is *the* place to practise your ritual in a safe environment, surrounded by knowledgeable and supportive brethren.

The new meeting schedule for the Grand Master's Lodges of Instruction can be found on the Provincial website [here](#).

A Demonstration of 'BEYOND THE CRAFT' - Friday 31 March 2023

West London Lodge of Installed Masters No 9627 will be hosting this demonstration at the West London Masonic Centre on Friday 31 March 2023, commencing at 5pm.

It is an educational and enlightening presentation that is of importance to Master Masons when considering their next step in Masonry. The event includes a presentation of regalia worn in the various Orders of Masonry as practiced in the UK, and an explanation of the hierarchy and qualifications of membership of the many Orders beyond the Craft. The demonstration is held in a Lodge room at the close of a regular Lodge meeting.

This is a great opportunity to ask questions, providing a discerning Mason with his daily advancement in Masonic knowledge



Welcome all, to the **Recipe of the Month**! It is a Tuna and Aubergine Bake. I do hope you enjoy it - please let me know the next time you see me!

John Ellis
Assistant Provincial Grand Master

Dates for your Diary

25 April 2023 - Provincial Grand Officers' Mess Dinner
8 July 2023 - Bike Ride London to Brighton

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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