

The CAMBRIDGESHIRE MASON



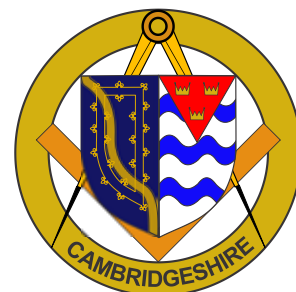
Cambridgeshire Masons



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Grand Lodge appointments and promotions

Spring 2019 Issue 18

Three Cambridgeshire brethren have gained first appointments to Grand Rank and there has been a promotion and two re-appointments. Promoted is the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, WBro. Pat Kilby, PAGDC, who will become Past Grand Sword Bearer and will therefore become VWBro. Kilby.



(l to r) WBro. Pat Kilby, WBro. Brian Elliott, WBro. George Brennan

WBro. Justin Bishop, of Isaac Newton University Lodge No. 859, has been appointed to the active rank of Grand Pursuivant. WBro. Alisdair Strachan, of Logistica Lodge No. 9084, will be appointed Past Assistant Grand Registrar. The Provincial Grand Almoner, WBro. George Brennan, of Gray Lodge No. 4334, will become Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies.

Re-appointed are RWBro. Jonathan Spence (Alma Mater No. 1492) as Deputy Grand Master, and VWBro. Dr David Staples (Stone Cross No. 6704) as Grand Secretary.

In the Royal Arch, the 3rd Provincial Grand Principal EComp. Brian Elliott, of Kynaston Chapter No. 5810, will be appointed to the active rank of Grand Standard Bearer.

Cliff Brown

Provincial honours

The Province's new Senior Grand Warden will be WBro. Kenneth 'Danny' Ellis, of St Andrew Lodge No. 4087, with WBro. John McCormick, of Lodge of Three Grand Principles No. 441 as Junior Warden. In the Royal Arch, EComp. Paul Gillingwater, of Caldwell Chapter No. 2727, will be the new 3rd Provincial Grand Principal.



(l to r) WBro. Danny Ellis, WBro. John McCormick, WBro. Mike Allen, EComp. Paul Gillingwater

The appointments and promotions were announced by the ProvGM, RWBro. William Dastur, at a dinner, attended by 100 brethren from the Province, following Quarterly Communications of Grand Lodge on 13th March. Appointed Provincial Grand Sword Bearer in the Craft is WBro. Michael Allen, of St Audrey Lodge No. 2727, and in the Royal Arch, EComp. Jim Stokes, of St Etheldreda No. 2107, has been promoted to the same rank.

The new Provincial Grand Chaplain will be WBro. Stuart Lingard PAGDC, of Lodge of Three Grand Principles, while the new Provincial Grand Organist in both Craft and Royal Arch will be WBro./EComp. David Warham PDepGOrg. In addition to his job as Provincial Grand Almoner in the Craft, WBro. George Brennan, of Gray Lodge No. 4334, will fill the same role in the Royal Arch.

The ProvGM also announced that WBro. Mike Hinton, of Scientific Lodge No. 88, will be take over from WBro. Lingard as Communications Officer. Full lists of all appointments and promotions have been circulated to lodges and chapters.

Cliff Brown

New day and venue for Provincial Grand Lodge

The 2019 Provincial Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter meetings will be moving to a new venue, the West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge.

It is the start of a new and exciting era for the Province of Cambridgeshire. Not only is it spacious and clean, it is air conditioned. To accommodate this move, the date will be changing by one day from that previously advertised and will now take place on Thursday 20th June 2019.

Brethren will continue to enjoy the facilities at Queens' College for our post-meeting dinner. Being the same distance from Queens' College as the Guildhall, the new venue avoids the need to get into the centre of Cambridge and its associated traffic and parking issues.

Additionally, start times are to be slightly brought forward to allow Brethren more time to make the short and relaxed walk to Queens' College. The Royal Arch meeting will begin at 1.30pm and the Craft meeting at 4pm. Further details, including parking arrangements, will be circulated

Kevin Mader

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The Provincial Grand Master says...



It hardly seems like six months have passed since our last edition. Time really does fly when one is enjoying life and I hope that you have enjoyed the last few months as much as I have. Freemasonry should be about having fun whether it be in learning ritual, filling an office, at the festive board, attending a meeting as a guest, or fundraising for a charitable cause such as the 2023 Festival.

Speaking of the Festival, we have now completed a year since its launch at Grand Lodge on 14th March, 2018 in support of the Masonic Charitable Foundation with a target of £900,000. We have already collected £275,000 and with committed payment promises we are scheduled to be over half the way there. However, we had a fortunate start and we must not become complacent but continue to work to raise funds for MCF which is, of course, your charity and does so much for freemasons and their dependents. As I said this time last year, *"We have five very busy but exciting years ahead of us whilst we raise funds for such a great cause. What is equally important though, is that we enjoy ourselves whilst involving our families, friends and the local communities"*

You will read in this edition of the new Grand Lodge and Supreme Grand Chapter appointments, which brethren and Companions of Cambridgeshire have been fortunate to receive. There are also the key appointments in Provincial Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Chapter, which I announced at our lunch at the Connaught Rooms after the Grand Lodge meeting, particularly the new Wardens and the next Third Grand Principal. Many congratulations to them all on their well-deserved recognition.

I am very much looking forward to investing the new Provincial officers at our Provincial Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Chapter meetings in June at our new venue. Please note, not only has the venue changed after some 70 years but also the date. We shall be holding our meetings on Thursday 20th June at the West Road Concert Hall in Cambridge. We shall still be dining at Queens' College and the new venue is slightly nearer the College and, more importantly, fully air-conditioned !

We have lost several dear friends recently including our Provincial Grand Chaplain, WBro. Nick Pett, who left us so soon after reading so eloquently at the Festival of Carols at Ely in December, where again we raised over £25,000 for the Cathedral and SSAFA. Our thoughts are with Nick's family and indeed all those families who have lost someone close to them.

Our initiatives on membership are being led by my two Deputies, WBro. Pat Kilby and EComp. Tony Just on the Craft and Royal Arch respectively as we focus on recruitment and retention. Please give them your full support. As I have said recently at lodge and chapter meetings, I should also ask that each of us thinks before we attend our next meeting about that brother or companion who doesn't appear to come anymore and see if you can entice or encourage him back or maybe give him that much needed lift. If we all did that, we would have better meetings but also would be strengthening our organisation immensely.

I very much commend this edition of The Cambridgeshire Mason to you and I hope you will enjoy its reprise of our activities in the Province over the last few months. I look forward to seeing many of you at our annual Provincial meetings on 20th June at our new venue. Do come and support your fellow brethren who are being honoured. This Province is in such great heart and I urge you all to have fun as we continue our Festival 2023 journey

Bill Dastur

Blind veteran returns to the Falklands after 36 years

A Past Master from Cambridgeshire, who served on HMS Endurance during the Falklands conflict has returned to the islands for the first time since the war ended in 1982.



David presents Nigel Phillips CBE, Governor of the Falklands, with a Blind Veterans UK tie.



Laying a wreath at the Liberation Memorial.

WBro. David Atkinson, who was Worshipful Master of Granta Lodge No. 6179 in 2012, joined the Royal Navy's canteen service in 1972 and was selected to join the crew of HMS Endurance. He later served on board the Royal Yacht Britannia, but had to retire from the Royal Navy in 1991 due to loss of his sight.

As a recipient of the South Atlantic Medal, David took advantage of a concessionary flight and travelled by Voyager, the largest RAF aircraft, between RAF Brize Norton and the South Atlantic.

During the trip, David and his guide Phil Drewery, who also served on HMS Endurance, stayed at Liberty Lodge in Port Stanley. They visited a number of battlefields, including Goose Green, Port Fitzroy and Two Sisters Mountain.

David also presented Nigel Phillips CBE, Governor of the Falklands, with a Blind Veterans UK tie and laid a wreath at the 1982 Liberation Memorial.

David said: "I wanted to go back to pay my respects and see how things had changed. It was a very emotional trip and an honour to remember those who fell in battle. My thanks go to Blind Veterans UK and the Falklands Veterans Foundation for helping to make this trip happen. The support I have received from Blind Veterans UK has been brilliant. I have received training and equipment which have enabled me to do everyday tasks that were otherwise impossible. I was a keen canoeist before losing my sight and Blind Veterans UK gave me the opportunity to get back on the water".

Peter Sutton

Twins initiated into Kynaston Lodge

Brethren attending the regular meeting of Kynaston Lodge No. 5810 on 6th December probably witnessed a unique event for the Province. The twin sons of Past Master, WBro. Lee Wilson were initiated by their father into Freemasonry in what was a moving and memorable ceremony.

The Worshipful Master, WBro. Ted Ridgway Watt, vacated the chair to WBro. Wilson to enable him to initiate his sons, William Lee Wilson and James Patrick Wilson. The ceremony concluded with the Ancient Charge being presented by their uncle, WBro. Andrew Fordham.



WBro. Wilson has been a working operative stonemason since 1982 and has worked on many fine buildings across the country. In his toast to his sons at the Festive Board he said: "I am immensely proud to have initiated my twin sons into Freemasonry. Both William and James' achievements have exceeded my dreams for them and bringing them into Kynaston Lodge will further strengthen their bond together and also with their new brethren in masonry".

Twenty-six years ago both had spent eight weeks in intensive care after being born. After schooling at Comberton Village College and Hills Road Sixth Form College, William attended Reading University to read History and Archaeology and gained a Master's degree in Archaeology. He now works at Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge, the very place that inspired his passion for both subjects. James' path led him to the University of Nottingham after a short spell working for his father and there gained a degree in Agriculture and Livestock Production Science. Now back at Nottingham and working toward a PhD in Management of the lameness in cattle, he has a passion for shooting and is a member of the University team.

Brian Elliott

Vital aid for Air Ambulance

A recent grant of £4,000 to the East Anglian Air Ambulance via the Masonic Charitable Foundation has brought the total amount given by Cambridgeshire Freemasons to £32,000 in the last 10 years and the total Masonic support given to Air Ambulances across the country to £2.3 million since 2007.



The ProvGM, supported by the DepProvGM WBro. Pat Kilby and ProvGSec WBro. Kevin Mader, presents a cheque for £4,000 to the staff of the East Anglian Air Ambulance.

The East Anglian Air Ambulance operates out of bases in Cambridge and Norwich and works right across East Anglia. Having made more than 2,000 lifesaving flights from Cambridge alone in 2018, more than 1,000 seriously injured people were transported to hospital and many other patients were treated on the ground.

During 2018, Freemasons from around the country will be presenting 20 regional air ambulances with grants totalling £192,000. East Anglian Air Ambulance relies entirely on charitable grants and donations. To make a donation, visit www.eaaa.org.uk.

Barbara McGee, community fundraising area manager at East Anglian Air Ambulance, said: "We are very grateful to Cambridgeshire Freemasons for their continuing generosity. Without support like this, EAAA would not be able to carry out their life-saving work."

RWBro. William Dastur, Provincial Grand Master for Cambridgeshire, said: "We are proud to be able to support the East Anglian Air Ambulance. Thanks to the tireless efforts of their doctors and aircrew, many lives of local people are saved every year."

Kevin Mader

Helping beat the poverty trap

A charity providing local people with rapid practical aid when in financial crisis has received £300 from the Province's Charity for Care & Relief.

The donation was presented to the Cambridge Central Aid Society's chairman, Nicola Longdon, by the DepProvGM, WBro. Patrick Kilby. The Society is often the last resort for desperate people, such as families and single parents caught in the poverty trap, women fleeing domestic abuse, and young and old people on the streets of Cambridgeshire.

Its task, since 1880, has been to provide rapid emergency poverty relief to help to get people through a crisis and, importantly, allow them, if possible, to maintain their dignity, if they can.

Alan de Laune



The DepProvGM presents the cheque to Nicola Longdon.

Care & Relief helps Acorn Project

On behalf of the Province of Cambridgeshire Charity for Care & Relief, the DepProvGM, WBro. Patrick Kilby recently presented a cheque for £250 to Matt Edge of the Cambridge Acorn Project.



The DepProvGM presents the cheque to Matt Edge.

The money will support a family who have undergone extreme difficulties. Matt Edge, the founder of the project in Cambridgeshire, explained its work: "We do therapeutic work with children and families that is connected to issues around stress, trauma, attachment and social justice. We take referrals from and work with schools, local authorities, communities, parents and carers and, where possible, we work with the healing potential that exists in families, and in existing attachments."

Kevin Mader

Ten charities get club support

Cambridge Freemasons' Club has made ten donations of £500 to local charities. The £5,000 total was divided equally between Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust, Multiple Sclerosis Society, Arthur Rank Hospice, Parkinson's UK, East Anglia Children's Hospice, CamSight, Headway, Eddie's, Cambridgeshire Hearing Help and Diabetes UK.



WBro. Ken Robinson, club president, and WBro. Ian Bissett, secretary, with a cheque for £500 for Addenbrooke's Charitable Trust.

These donations are over and above the normal raffle prize draws made at club events.

Cambridge Freemasons' Club is open to all of the Brethren who attend Masonic meetings at Bateman Street, Cambridge. It holds a number of events throughout the year, usually on a Saturday or Sunday, for members to bring friends and family to Freemasons' Hall for a good meal and to help raise funds for local charities.

The club is looking for willing volunteers to help at these events, so if you are interested, contact:

cambridgefreemasonsclub@gmail.com

Ian Bissett

Charity help at March

Two charities in March have benefitted from donations provided by Stone Cross Lodge No. 6704 with matched funding from the City and University of Cambridge Masonic Charitable Trust. Immediate Past Master, WBro. Paul Dunham presented cheques for £250 to both FACET and Cambridgeshire Search and Rescue.



(left to right) John Potter, Frank Allen, Paul Dunham, Linda Ingram, Andrew Pugh and Wendy Papworth.

Founded in 2002, FACET is a March-based charity with a focus on providing training and day care to adults with disabilities. Based at March Fire Station, Cambridgeshire Search and Rescue is a specialist team called upon by the Police in the search for vulnerable missing people where an emergency response is vital. It has four vehicles to keep on the road and needs to replace their main incident vehicle.



WBro. Dunham and Philpott with representatives of Cambs Search and Rescue.

WBro. Dunham, accompanied by WBro. Andrew Pugh, who is also chairman of FACET, presented the cheque to its chief executive Linda Ingram and vice-chair Wendy Papworth, who were accompanied by FACET trustees John Potter and WBro. Frank Allen, of Caldwell Lodge No. 3201.

The cheque to Cambs Search and Rescue was presented by WBro. Dunham and almoner WBro. Nigel Philpott to the organisation's Johnathan Harwood, Lee Sustins and Kristine McLaughlin.

Cliff Brown

Alma Mater Lodge helps Wintercomfort for the Homeless

Just before Christmas Wintercomfort for the Homeless received a welcome donation from Alma Mater Lodge No. 1492 and The City and University of Cambridge Masonic Charitable Trust.



On 18th December, W.Bro. Peter Sutton, charity steward of Alma Mater Lodge, presented a cheque for £500, funded jointly by the Lodge and the Masonic Charitable Trust, to Mandy Eitzen, administrator of Wintercomfort.

Wintercomfort does not offer accommodation, but does offer assistance throughout the day to the less-fortunate members of society. A free breakfast is served every day to be followed by a surgery for medical checks. Showers and laundry facilities are available and hairdressing and foot care are also offered. There are job sessions aimed at teaching cleaning, catering and IT skills. Leisure and recreational opportunities together with art classes are available.

Wintercomfort offers facilities to people who are experiencing a difficult time giving them a chance to re-build their lives and be re-settled in society.

Peter Sutton

Lodge honours the Deputy

To acknowledge his achievement of becoming Deputy Provincial Grand Master, members of the Gild of St Mary Lodge No. 7288 presented W.Bro. Pat Kilby with an engraved silver salver.



Members of Gild of St Mary with the DepProvGM.

At its January meeting, W.Bro. Jeremy Miller made the presentation to W.Bro. Kilby, Master of the Lodge in 1996, on behalf of the members. It had followed the gift of a cut-glass decanter, glasses and four bottles of port made an earlier officers' meeting. The DepProvGM thanked the Lodge for the gift and expressed how proud he was to receive it.

The evening was further enhanced by it being a second consecutive Initiation meeting. The two recent initiates were Bro. Daniel Smith, a butler at Wolfson College, and Bro. Shapour Meftah, an IT consultant.

Kevin Mader

Fifty years in Masonry for Nourse founder

At the Nourse Lodge No. 8590 installation meeting in November, Brethren were happy to welcome one of only two remaining Founders of the Lodge, W.Bro. John Masters, PPSGW (Dorset) LGR.



He had travelled from Swanage in Dorset, as he does most years, health and weather permitting, for the Installation meeting. John, who was Master of the Lodge in 1980, was present to be honoured for his 50 years in Masonry by the Provincial Grand Master, RWBro. William Dastur.

The ProvGM presented him with a treasured and rare 50-Year Certificate in Freemasonry and gave a warm, amusing and comprehensive resume of John's life, travels and commitment to Freemasonry over the last 50 years.

David G Cameron

Companions visit Supreme Grand Chapter

Nearly 60 Cambridgeshire companions attended the November Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter. After the formal proceedings, they listened to a very stimulating presentation by members of the Royal College of Surgeons who are in receipt of masonic support. Their work is truly groundbreaking and clearly illustrated the value of the grants made to them.

Afterwards the companions enjoyed the usual convivial lunch at Parker's Restaurant. The lunch concluded with some witty speeches especially from the 2nd Provincial Grand Principal, EComp. David Blair who somehow managed to avoid referring to the Sun God Apollo, and in reply the Grand Superintendent rounded off the occasion with stimulating words of encouragement.

Edmund Brookes



Nourse brother visits Grand Lodge of Washington DC

A Cambridgeshire mason attended a lodge meeting under the Grand Lodge of Washington DC in the United States of America.



WBro. Bayani Pioquinto (secretary), RWBro. Sheldon Rappeport, WM and GL Lecturer Emeritus, WBro. David Cameron, RWBro. Charbel Fahed, Deputy Grand Master, WBro. Carpenter Arpa IV (treasurer), GL Provost.

On Saturday 20th October, WBro. David Cameron, of Nourse Lodge No. 8590, was invited to attend Maynilad Lodge No. 1521, where the brethren were extremely welcoming and he was made to feel like an old friend.

The ceremony was a double third and together with the election of next year's officers took about four and a half hours. The ceremony, while it was similar to our Emulation Ritual, had many differences which made it even more enjoyable for visitors.

"What impressed me was the very high standard of ritual. I learned afterwards that the Worshipful Master was also a Past Grand Lecturer," said WBro. Cameron.

The Grand Lodge of Washington DC has around 435 lodges and 4,400 members and has recently established an overseas lodge in Lebanon. UK brethren are encouraged to visit overseas should they wish, providing they check in advance with our Provincial Grand Secretary that the lodge is in amity with the UGLE.

David G Cameron

50 years celebrated at Kynaston Lodge

At Kynaston Lodge's regular meeting on 6th December, Brother Geoffrey Leonard Sandell celebrated 50 years as a Freemason.



The Lodge was honoured with the presence of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, WBro. Pat Kilby, who presented Geoff with a 50 years certificate from the Province and a personal letter of congratulation from the Provincial Grand Master together with a lapel pin. The WM, WBro. Ted Ridgway Watt was pleased to present him with a set of masonic cufflinks.

In his presentation, WBro. Kilby advised over 70 brethren present that Geoff was initiated on the 5th December 1968 and, although he had never attained the chair of King Solomon, had been an enthusiastic member who had supported the Lodge, not only by a regular attendance at meetings but also the many social events held over the years. He highlighted Geoff's appointment in Provincial Grand Lodge to Provincial Grand Steward in 2010 and subsequent promotion to Past Provincial Assistant Grand Secretary in 2012.

Replying Geoff thanked WBro. Kilby for his kind words, adding that he was surprised how quickly 50 years had gone and that he had enjoyed every moment, particularly the fellowship of all the brethren. He recalled his Initiation as if yesterday and was sorry that WBro. Roy Abraham was unable to be present as he was the Master who had initiated him in 1968.

Brian Elliott

Wall walk helps MAGPAS

MAGPAS, the helicopter ambulance service, has received £1,000 after a March Brother walked Hadrian's Wall. Bro. Justin Miles, of Caldwell Lodge No. 3201, raised £750 and the Province's Charity for Care and Relief added £250.



The cheque was handed over at RAF Wyton to representatives of MAGPAS by Brother Miles and WBro. Brian Sutton, the Lodge's Charity Steward.

Brian Sutton

Return to his roots

Exactly 40 years after his initiation, WBro. Chris Ansell returned to Stone Cross Lodge No. 6704 in November to mark the occasion.

Chris, who now lives in Yorkshire, was initiated into the lodge, based in March, on November 24th 1978 and still has family in the area. At the time of his initiation, Chris was a 22-year-old student and his father Keith was the lodge's Junior Deacon. He served the lodge as a steward during 1981 and 1982 before work meant he had to continue his masonic career elsewhere from 1983.

He still retains Masonic connections with Cambridgeshire, being a Past Master of Alma Mater No. 1492, as well as belonging to various other orders. He also holds the rank of Past Assistant Grand Master in the Masonic Order of Athelstan.

Cliff Brown

Party for Cornwallis residents

The annual Cornwallis Court Resident's Christmas Party was held at the home on Saturday 15th December. Organised by the Friends of Cornwallis Court under the leadership of WBro. John Surbey, the residents enjoyed some early Christmas entertainment including 'A Band of Ukes', a wonderful group of ukulele players.



WBro. John Surbey introducing the band at the residents' party.

The residents were further entertained by the Suffolk Provincial Choir, who sang a number of carols. Santa (WBro. Bob Smith) and his elf (WBro. Dennis Reed) handed out presents to all the residents. In attendance were WBro. George Brennan (ProvGAlm), his predecessor WBro. Tony Mason and WBro Kevin Mader (ProvGSec).

Kevin Mader

Launch of Membership Pathway

A key objective of the UGLE Strategy 2015-2020 is to secure the future of Freemasonry, and to improve its structure for the attraction and retention of members.

"The future of Freemasonry depends upon being able to introduce and retain committed members who will contribute to their lodges and enjoy a lasting membership," said RWBro. Peter Lowndes, Pro Grand Master.

To enable this objective UGLE have launched the Members' Pathway, which provides a structured approach for lodges to follow in order to attract and encourage potential new members, while at the same time retaining and adding value to the existing membership.



(l to r): Peter Vipars, Jon West, George Brennan and Harry Rooke.

Every Province throughout England and Wales is now rolling out the Members Pathway. In Cambridgeshire this has been entrusted to the DepProvGM, WBro. Pat Kilby, assisted by the Provincial Membership Officer, WBro. Peter Vipars, the Provincial Grand Mentor, WBro. Jon West, the Provincial Grand Almoner, WBro. George Brennan and the Provincial Training Officer, WBro. Harry Rooke.

You can learn more about the Members Pathway at <https://b.ugle.org.uk/membership> or by inviting one of the Members of the Pathway Team to address your Lodge or Lol. For more details, contact WBro. West, Provincial Grand Mentor: ProvGMen@pglcambs.org.uk

Jon West

Support from Wisbech Lodge

A donation of £600 made to the Meadowgate Academy in Wisbech will be used to create an outdoor sensory area.

A total of £600 raised by Wisbech's Gild of Holy Trinity Lodge No. 6125, which included £250 matched funding from the City & University of Cambridge Masonic Charitable Trust, was presented to teacher Matt Toms by the Worshipful Master, WBro. Andrew Pallant, and WBro. David Bays.



Helping hand (left to right): WBro. David Bays and WBro. Jeremy Pallant, of the Gild of Holy Trinity Lodge, presenting the cheque to Matt Toms and other staff members and pupils.

The children he works with all have multiple learning difficulties, and some have additional sensory difficulties. The area will be a safe space to explore and move around, some walking and some in special walking frames or wheelchairs. It will include things they can see, smell, feel and hear. Jackie McPherson, head teacher for the academy, thanked everyone who gave so generously for the project.

Bob Kidger

Pathway Project – the next stage

A series of seminars to help lodges select suitable candidates is being organised by WBro. Harry Rooke, the Provincial Education Officer. The aim is to help lodges choose those who will benefit from their membership and, in turn, will be an asset to Freemasonry and their Lodge.

WBro. Pat Kilby, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, who is heading the Pathway Project in our Province, said: "The concept of a Lodge Membership Team is new and is a direct result of many good men applying directly to join us. Whether they are known or unknown to a Mason, this stage is crucial in choosing men who will gain from their membership of Freemasonry and enter with a clear idea of what Masonry is, and equally importantly, what it is not."

Invitations will be sent to the Lodge Membership Officer, Mentor and another Brother who has a role to play in selecting candidates.

There are four events planned over the year, Newmarket Masonic Hall on 19th March, for Ely and Newmarket Lodges; March Masonic Hall on 30th April for Fenland Lodges and two at Bateman Street on 7th May and 24th September. If you are unable to attend the event for your area you can attend any of the others, please contact WBro. Rooke provgorat@pglcambs.org.uk

Harry Rooke

To show your support for Cambridgeshire's Festival 2023 and the Masonic Charitable Foundation get your Steward's jewel by visiting <https://festival2023.org>



Loss to the Province

The Province was saddened at the news of the death of WBro. Nigel Albert 'Nick' Pett, Provincial Grand Chaplain, who passed away on 13th January at home with his family.

Nick, who was a licensed reader in the Diocese of Ely for more than 20 years, had been Master of Scientific Lodge No. 88 in 2003 and 2012, and was honoured with Grand Rank in 2015 when he was appointed Past Assistant Grand Chaplain.

A devoted public servant, he was also chairman of Stapleford Parish Council and a member of the board of Cambridge University Rugby Union Football Club, most recently as secretary.

The funeral took place at St Mary's Church, Great Shelford, on 31st January, with donations made to Pancreatic Cancer UK or the Arthur Rank Hospice Charity.

Kevin Mader



Donations at Whittlesey

Immediately after his year as Worshipful Master of St Andrew Lodge No. 4087 at Whittlesey, WBro. Matthew Ellis and the lodge's charity steward, WBro. Danny Ellis, presented cheques totalling £3,800 to the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, WBro. Pat Kilby.



There were three cheques presented - £3,000 to Festival 2023, £750 to the Provincial Building Fund and £50 from the 'bar jar' for Teddies for Loving Care. The presentation took place after the lodge's installation meeting on 9th October.

Peter Corley

Ely lodges dominate in scramble

Home advantage at Ely seemed to play a part in the Cambs Masonic Golf Association's annual Texas Scramble when the first three places went to members of the city's lodges.

The event, held on 8th October 2018 at Ely City Golf Club, is for teams of three and was the first event organised by the new secretaries, WBro. Richard Rowlett and WBro. Mick Harding. The 18-hole competition proved to be a very successful with many new teams taking part.



Winners (above) were the St Ovin Lodge No. 7774 trio of Peter Webster, Richard Rowlett and Bob Shields. Second place went to another St Ovin group consisting of Michael Munnelly, Michael Harding and Vince Bartlett (below). In third were Richard Hough, Bill Harrison and Peter Harrison, from St Audrey Lodge No. 2727.



The next event will be the Provincial Golf Day in late May 2019 when a number of new ideas will be incorporated. Details will be circulated.

Kevin Mader

Light Blues visit Three Grand Principles

Members of Cambridgeshire Light Blues attend an excellent Initiation at the Lodge of Three Grand Principles No. 441 at Freemasons Hall in Bateman Street, Cambridge, on 4th March.



Members of the Cambridge Light Blues (l to r) Bros. Tony Orfeo, Adrian Dent, Andy Murfitt and Razvan-Ioan Dinita

They were treated to an excellent ceremony for Bro. Malcolm Duffield, which was led by the WM, WBro. Ed Williams and included a dramatic Charge to the Initiate by Bro Tony Orfeo. Both the DepProvGM, WBro. Pat Kilby, and WBro. Brian Elliott PAGDC, who are keen supporters of the Light Blues, attended the meeting.

Adrian Dent

Ely Mason celebrates 90th birthday



The Deputy ProvGM, WBro. Pat Kilby congratulating WBro. John Williams, of St Audrey Lodge No. 2727 at Ely on celebrating his 90th birthday.

50 Years in Craft Masonry

WBro. Keith Huddlestone has celebrated 50 years in Craft Masonry and his membership of the Walden Lodge No 1280, in Saffron Walden. He received a certificate marking his 50 years and a special lapel badge from WBro. Nick Franklin, Provincial Assistant Grand Master of Essex.



Celebration time (left to right): WBro. George Bonham, WBro. David Adams, WBro. Nick Franklin, WBro. Keith Huddlestone, RWBro. William Dastur and WBro. Neil Beverley.

Support for Tom's Trust

On behalf of the Charity for Care & Relief, the DepProvGM, WBro. Patrick Kilby presented a cheque for £500 to Tom's Trust, a small but rapidly evolving charity based in Cambridge.



The DepProvGM hands over the £500 cheque to Deborah Whitley, of Tom's Trust.

It was set up in July 2011 by Deborah and Andrew Whiteley as a legacy to their only son Tom, who died seven months after being diagnosed with a brain tumour. Tom's Trust's Clinical Psychologists, based at Addenbrooke's Hospital, are currently supporting around 125 children from East Anglia and their families.

Fundraiser Julie Robinson said: "Our work is unique in that we are the only UK charity focused solely on psychological support for children with brain tumours and their families. Our vision is that all children with brain tumours and their families in the UK will eventually be supported as they now are in East Anglia."

Julie concluded: "Thank you for the very generous donation from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cambridgeshire."

In the words of Tom's Trust's lead clinical psychologist, Angela Kirby: "It's not just about surviving, it's about living and finding life again after a brain tumour."

More information on the work of Tom's Trust can be found at www.tomstrust.org.uk

Kevin Mader

At that presentation at Walden Lodge, WBro. Franklin outlined Keith's impressive masonic career in the Provinces of Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex and Hertfordshire, included being Assistant to the Provincial Grand Principals in the Royal Arch (Essex) and Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler in the Order of the Secret Monitor (Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire & Hertfordshire).

Keith is now serving for a third time as Master of Walden Lodge and also initiated a Lewis of the same age as he was when he joined, 50 years ago to the day. In November 2019, Keith will install his successor at the 150th year celebration of Walden Lodge's consecration.

Among those present were RWBro. William Dastur, ProvGM of Cambridgeshire, two Assistant Provincial Grand Masters from Essex, and four other Grand Officers, along with numerous members and visitors. At the festive board, the members of Walden Lodge presented Keith with a celebratory cake.

Ian Greig

Crowd-pleaser 'Cinders' raises £3,500

After many weeks of tireless rehearsing the Provincial pantomime 'Cinders' took place at the end of January, and raised £3,500 for three good causes.

A sensitive play about love, romance, danger, intrigue and a happy ending, 'Cinders' was none of those things, but it was a boisterous romp through a well-loved story by a group of chaps in some very dodgy attire.

WBro. Mark Long as director, producer, Prince Charming and chief rabble-rouser led from the front, and was brilliantly assisted by WBro. David Adams on the piano and bugle.

By far and away the most popular part of the panto was the synchronised swimming – a performance of energy, vitality, Union Jack swimming shorts and rather too much body hair.



Over three performances the panto played to more than 300 people, and, for the first time, included people unconnected with Freemasonry in the audience, who had seen the event on Facebook – another positive for Freemasonry in the local area.

Thanks to the generosity and support of the audience, the panto raised £3,500, which will be split between UK Pancreatic Cancer (£1,500), Festival 2023 (£1,000) and Cambridge Central Aid (£1,000).

Thanks must go to WBro. Peter Brown and his wife Gill who looked after the cast, to WBros. Dan Heath and Jim Stokes for sound and Steve Williams for the lighting, and Sharon Curtis and Katie Le Marquand for applying makeup.

Justin Curtis

Scientific brethren visit Istanbul Lodges

Thanks to the initiative and expert planning of one of the newer members of Scientific Lodge No. 88, Bro Ali Cimen and his wife Arzu and his Turkish Masonic friend Bro. Cem Tunçel, six members of the lodge and several friends had a memorable four days in Istanbul. The trip in November included sightseeing, a boat trip and visits to Kardeşlik Lodge No. 6 for a Passing and Erguvan Lodge No. 224 for an Initiation.

Although both Lodges, which meet in the sprawling Turkish Grand Lodge building in Istanbul, are Turkish speaking, the visitors were given printed booklets of the rituals in English. Most of their ritual is read. An indication of the importance both Grand Lodge of Turkey and the Lodges attached to our visit was that a former Grand Master of Turkey attended Kardeşlik and the Grand Secretary was at Erguvan to welcome the UK visitors.

Both ceremonies had familiar elements. The Initiation had many unusual twists with emphasis on an explanation of the symbolism of the ceremony and the Lodge furniture. Noticeable differences were that the candidates were placed in a 'Chamber of Contemplation' before being admitted and required to write answers to three set questions (a form of confession), which are then taken into Lodge and read out before being ceremonially burnt in front of the candidates at the end of the ceremony.

They perambulate the room three times negotiating obstacles and having a hand dipped in fire, water, and earth, and when the blindfold is removed the candidates find Lodge members in a circle around them with swords pointed at their throats. They are then given two pairs of white gloves one for themselves and the other to give to the lady dearest to them. In the passing, the candidates also perambulate three times and are taught how to use the working tools of an Entered Apprentice before they take the obligation, which done, they are asked to turn round and find mirrors held up so that they can see their faces; they are then told that true virtue can only be found within themselves.

The dinners after the meetings were memorable for the food and copious supply of raki. The WM of Kardeşlik Lodge presented VWBro. Tim Pearce Higgins with a lodge jewel, certificate of attendance and reed flute (a ney), the sacred instrument of the Merlevi Dervishes, for Scientific Lodge.

After both dinners the visitors adjourned to the terrace overlooking the Bosphorus for more drinks. The visitors were overwhelmed by the friendliness, hospitality and generosity and formed a close bond with the hosts. It will probably be the first of a number of reciprocal visits. Indeed, Scientific Lodge is already planning a return visit later in the year.

At Scientific's Installation meeting on 14th January, five members of Kardeşlik Lodge attended and gifts were exchanged. On 11th February, Bro. Ali Cimen was raised and seven Turkish masons were present and further gifts exchanged.

Tim Pearce Higgins



Outside the Blue Mosque (from left): WBro. Rob Parks, Bro. Gerhard Smith, his father-in-law, WBro. Mark Long, Mrs Arzu Cimen, VWBro. Tim Pearce Higgins, Bro. Cem Tunçel, Margaret Pearce Higgins, WBro. Tony Barrios, Bro. Ali Cimen.



In the dining room at Kardeşlik Lodge with its WM, WBro. Aykut Kesintürk (centre).

Wisbech help for local school

Wisbech Masonic Benevolent Fund, on behalf of the town's Freemasons, presented a cheque for £250 to the Friends of Gorefield Primary School.



WBro. Michael Humphrey, John Starling (headmaster) and WBro. David Bays with some of the school's pupils

The Friends are raising money to improve the facilities on the school field and the money will go towards the provision of an outside classroom.

Bob Kidger

Thirkill Lodge supports Home Start

Home Start Royston & South Cambs got a £500 boost to their funds from Thirkill Lodge No. 7333 when the Worshipful Master, WBro. Adrian Peters, and WBro Douglas Forsdyke PProvSGW CSM (the lodge's senior Past Master) presented a cheque to the organisation's scheme manager, Ms. Sarah Mascall, to enhance its ongoing work within the community.

David Kirkham



Spotlight on Royal and Select Masters

Between the shocking events related in the Craft's Third Degree set shortly before the completion of the First Temple at Jerusalem – often known as King Solomon's Temple – and the discovery of the lost secrets at the building of the Second Temple played out so colourfully in the ceremony of Exaltation in the Royal Arch, almost half a millenium elapsed, more or less the same amount of time as between Henry VIII and today.

Have you ever wondered what happened during that long period of time? We know that in the centuries after completing the First Temple – the story of which is told in the three Craft and two Mark Degrees – the Jewish people were overrun, first by the Assyrians and then by the Babylonians, finally being taken forcibly by King Nebuchadnezzar into Exile in Babylon. Seventy years later the Persian ruler, King Cyrus the Great, destroyed the Babylonian empire and allowed the Jews to return to Jerusalem and start work on building the Second Temple, leading to the accidental discovery of the lost secrets as told in the Royal Arch.

Many Degrees have sprung up to fill that long gap in time, among them the Degrees now collected together into an Order called "Royal and Select Masters". This group of four Degrees – Select Master, Royal Master, Most Excellent Master, and Super Excellent Master – requires that new members are already Master Masons, Mark Master Masons, and Royal Arch Masons.



The Degrees deal with events around the completion of the First Temple; its consecration, which should have been a joyful occasion but, for King Solomon, was tinged with sorrow after the loss of his Architect and friend; an intimate and moving conversation between Adoniram and Hiram Abiff, which binds together the characters from Mark and Craft; and the last few days before the First Temple's catastrophic destruction and the Exile of the Jewish people to Babylon, from where, of course, the story is picked up again in the Royal Arch.

In this friendly Order, members are called Companions, as in the Royal Arch, and meet together in Councils, which are grouped into Districts. The District of East Anglia comprises Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, and Suffolk, and there is one Council in Cambridgeshire – University Council No. 26 – which meets at Bateman Street in Cambridge on three Saturdays each year - the fourth Saturday in October, the next after the fourth Saturday in May, and Installation on the first Saturday in February.

New members are always welcome, and when you join you will see plenty of familiar and friendly faces in this small and fascinating Order. For more information, contact the Recorder, MC Black, at recorder@uc26.org.uk or visit the District's web site at <http://rsm-east-anglia.org/>

David Goode

Festival of Carols raises £25,000

Ely Cathedral was full with an attendance of 1,000 for the seventh biennial Festival of Carols held in December. This highly popular event in the Cambridgeshire calendar raised £25,000 to be divided between the Cathedral and SSAFA, the armed forces charity.



Each year SSAFA helps many thousands of people across all services from World War Two veterans to young men and women who have served in more recent conflicts.

Soloist was Ruthie Henshall, who has appeared in many West End productions. The Ely Cathedral Choir and The Ely Imps were also in fine voice under the direction of Paul Trepte, the Director of Music, who was taking part in his final Festival of Carols prior to his retirement.

Provincial Grand Master RWBro. William Dastur welcomed everyone to the concert and thanked the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral, together with the seven local sponsors, for their valued support.

Peter Sutton

Silver jubilee for The Porta

The 25th anniversary of the consecration of The Porta Lodge No. 9511 took place on 4th September 2018 when at the installation meeting the members welcomed the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, WBro. Pat Kilby.



The newly installed Master, WBro. Stewart Robinson, and the DepProvGM with some of the founder members and members of The Porta Lodge.

Consecrated on 4th September 1993, by RWBro. Canon Hugh Barker, then Provincial Grand Master, The Porta Lodge was principally for the furtherance of fraternal relations between old boys, husbands of old girls, teachers, male members of the non-teaching staff, former and current parents, governors and others with an interest in The King's School, Ely. Founding Master was WBro. The Lord Soulsby, of Swaffham Prior.

There are several reasons why the name was chosen. Anyone who has been involved with the school will have passed through the Porta many times, but also St. Audrey Lodge met within the Porta for approximately 40 years from 1919. When the founding committee met to decide on the name of the Lodge, it was decided that The Porta Lodge was an appropriate choice.

Mike Fox

Make your daily advancement

Solomon, the new online learning resource from UGLE, is all about making your daily advancement in masonic knowledge a reality in the Craft and Royal Arch. The online resource (<https://solomon.ugle.org.uk>) can be accessed on smartphones, tablets and computers and currently contains more than 350 items.

Stressing its importance to lodges, chapters and individuals, Provincial Education Officer, WBro. Harry Rooke, said: "Designed to support the interests and requirements of lodges and chapters, it also provides a platform for individual study. Lodge Mentors or Directors of Ceremonies will be able to find material to help you learn about or understand a topic, or may introduce learning content into regular meetings.

Solomon consists of short five to 10-minute papers and demonstrations, as well as longer items. It supports those who want to learn more about masonry, those with programme planning or member development roles, and provincial officers who provide learning resources and activities. "Bringing together material from many sources, Solomon will support personal inquiry or study," said WBro. Rooke.

It is organised into three categories: Seek & Learn: for individual exploration or presentation; Share & Encourage: for use by lodges and chapters; Support & Promote: for Provinces and Districts. The first two categories have eight modules covering the Craft, the Royal Arch and more general areas, such as symbolism and history.

Help for Farm Trust

Nourse Lodge No. 8590 has helped a care farm providing therapeutic horticulture with learning difficulties. The WM, WBro. Gordon Dunn presented a cheque for £310 to the Prospects Trust on 12th March.



The Prospects Trust runs an 18-acre care farm in rural Cambridgeshire, where placements are open to people with additional needs. The Trust's Snakehall Farm specialises in providing therapeutic horticulture to people with learning difficulties, disabilities and those with varying health needs. On 14th September there will be an open day, celebrating the 30 years anniversary of the Trust.

David G Cameron

Once registered, you can log in and enrol in one or more modules and explore Solomon. It is intuitive and designed to foster curiosity and draw you in to seek answers. Solomon complements the Members' Pathway and individual mentoring programmes too. The result will be improved performance of ceremonies, better mentoring and greater confidence in explaining Freemasonry to others. It is hoped a regular presentation of these items at meetings will stimulate a desire to learn more.

Harry Rooke



Solomon

Fostering Curiosity- Developing Understanding



Your Journey of Masonic Learning and Development

For members of the United Grand Lodge of England

Alma Mater Lodge celebrates 20th Burns Supper

Members of Alma Mater Lodge No. 1492 and their guests celebrated a Burns Supper on 26th January at Bateman Street, Cambridge, organised by WBro. Stewart Kerr. A total of 73 diners were treated to the traditional fare of cock-a-leekie soup, haggis, neeps and tatties.



Under the guiding hand of Lodge DC, WBro. Edmund Brookes, proceedings commenced with the Selkirk Grace given by WBro. John Brady. WBro. John Parker gave a superb rendition of the Address to the Haggis. After supper the address to the Immortal Memory was proposed by WBro. David Blair, the Toast to the Lassies by the WM, WBro. David Hodgson, with a reply by Margaret Pearce Higgins. The successful evening concluded with the singing of Auld Lang Syne.

The raffle raised £445, which was donated to Emmaus, a local charity which provides a home, work and a sense of belonging for the homeless.

Peter Sutton

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