

Cambridgeshire Freemason

The Second Rising



Brethren and Companions,

A Christmas Message from The Provincial Grand Master

As 2023 draws to a close, I should like to thank you for your contributions over the last 12 months which has resulted in an extremely successful year for the Province.

We have new Executive teams in place in the Craft and Royal Arch including a first Assistant Provincial Grand Master, a new Deputy Grand Superintendent and new Provincial Treasurer. Coupled with the other changes to the Provincial Executive in both orders, I believe we are well set up for the next five years which amply illustrates we are a coherent organisation with good governance and succession planning in place.

The culmination of the 2023 Festival for MCF in September with a fantastic total raised of over £1.2 million demonstrates your dedication to service and charitable giving. The celebrations at Queens' College were a perfect finale and whilst I thank everyone who contributed, I would single out W.Bro. Paul Gillingwater for his inspirational leadership in masterminding the campaign and the tireless support of W.Bro. David Cameron. The Province's dedication to Community has, nevertheless, continued and I was delighted to hear that a combination of many lodges from four of our masonic centres have enabled five donations of £4,000 each, to be distributed before Christmas to food banks and those in need. The matched funding from our local masonic charities and MCF has ensured a meaningful sum totaling £20,000 and demonstrates freemasonry in the community at its best.

I am pleased that we are more than meeting the membership challenge, with growth in both orders, as we continue to see initiations and exaltations at our meetings. We must not rest on our laurels or be complacent; **"One Journey, One Organisation"** should be emphasised to all potential candidates as well as reinforcing the message to all our existing Brethren. Maintaining momentum and growth remains our key and critical challenge for 2024 as well as ensuring we continue to try to encourage those Brethren and Companions whom we have not seen recently to return to our meetings and festive boards.

The consecration of Hutchinson Masters Lodge earlier this year means we now have a third daylight Lodge available for Brethren who find night-time driving and late dining less comfortable but would still wish to enjoy the fraternity.

The Light Blues Club continues to go from strength to strength and I do so enjoy the buddy visits as newer Brethren are introduced to peers and other Lodges. The Clarets are starting to make an impact in the Royal Arch since their launch in September.

The Province is in good heart and, for 2024, we should continue to focus on increasing our membership with quality candidates, serving in our communities and ensuring our Lodges and Chapters have developing growth and succession plans in place, thereby underpinning our commitment to the Pro Grand Master's 7-year strategy. The latest suggestion of incorporating the Royal Arch in the loyal toast as well as the recent launch of Archway, together with other suggestions on improving our ceremonies, will ensure this special order will receive renewed focus.

Brethren and Companions, please enjoy a well-earned break as you celebrate the Christmas holidays with your families and friends. I thank you for your friendship, support, enthusiasm but most of all your commitment to this wonderful organisation. and, as always, may I wish you a Happy Christmas and a prosperous 2024!

90 Years Young



W.Bro. Andrew Pallant, a member of The Gild of Holy Trinity Lodge No 6125 at Wisbech, celebrates his 90th birthday with some local Worshipful Brethren at a lunch organised by W.Bro. J. Pallant Junior and held at Wisbech Rugby Club where Andrew was, for many years, Club President.

Around 50 guests attended the function, most were club players, past and present, club officials and friends. An enjoyable luncheon with friends, a few beers and the odd glass of wine.

Thirkill Lodge No. 7333



At the Installation of Thirkill Lodge No. 7333 the newly installed Master of this fine Lodge, W.Bro. Eddie Osbourne.

Pictured with members of Cambridgeshire Lodge Of Provincial Grand Stewards 9927 who assisted with the ceremony.

'Bingo' - For Charity



Representatives from United Good Fellowship Lodge No. 809 in Wisbech presented a cheque for the sum of £1,500 to the Alan Hudson Centre in Wisbech in support of the Arthur Rank Hospice Charity and especially the Trafford Ward which cares for convalescent Elderly and End of Life Patients. The money was raised at a Family Bingo Evening which was organised by Lodge members Malcolm Ford and Mathew Green.

Teddies on the lookout



Look out for the new Teddies for Loving Care banner as it travels around the Province.

All donations thankfully received and faithfully applied.

Loja Uniao Brasileira No.253**Granta Lodge No. 6179**

Saturday 18th November 2023 saw the Installation of Bro. Rogério Fernandes de Sousa Fihlo, or 'Rog' for short, in the presence of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master V.W. Bro. Pat Kilby on his last official visit to one of our Installations.

Whilst memorable, not particularly unusual I hear you say, but on this occasion, it coincided with the visit of two very special visitors from Rog's Mother Lodge in Brazil, Loja Uniao Brasileira No. 253; his father, Bro. Rogério Fernandes and W.Bro. Leon Guimaraes, both of whom had flown over especially to attend the Installation.

The Installing Master, W.Bro. David Atkinson was as usual, on fine form, and the Lodge owes him a debt that will be difficult to repay; not just for his enthusiasm during the past year, but from the moment he became a joining member.

In an unexpected turn, and to the delight of all present, Rog's father made a presentation to his son; a present from the Master and Brethren to their Initiate on his elevation to the Chair of King Solomon.

The inscription reads;

The Uniao Brasileira Lodge No. 253 and all the members congratulate the Bro Rogério Fernandes de Sousa Filho on his Installation on the 18th of November 2023 as Worshipful Master of the Granta Lodge No. 6179. In the name of Grand Architect of the Universe we wish him brotherly love, relief and truth on his Masonic Journey.

Edilson Fernandes Martuchi
Worshipful Master

Gustavo Rodrigo Schiavon
Secretary

Saint Nicholas - Father Christmas

St Nicholas, a Bishop from old Turkey's bygone days,
Worked for the good of other folk in many diverse ways.
He tried to be anonymous but soon he was found out
And tales of fame then quickly spread to countries all about.

"Come girls and boys, hang up your socks and see them in a row,
For Father Christmas comes tonight as surely you all know".
These first lines from a children's song my mother sang to me,
Help illustrate one meaning of this great man's charity.

Of sailors and of children he became the patron Saint,
Performing his good deeds throughout the world without restraint
With gifts for children, their delight, so wonderful a sight,
Distributed throughout the world in just a single night.

He earned a reputation with the Ladies of the Night,
To rescue them from poverty and save them from their plight.
To save them from a life of sin and keep them from neglect,
To take them off the streets and give them back their self respect.

Thus modesty and Godliness and honour without fame,
The architect, designer of the toy, the book, the game.
Beneficence and selflessness, love of his fellow man,
All values of true Masons since Freemasonry began.

Was he then of a side degree forgotten long ago,
Enlisting Masons round the world, their charity to show?
This "charity" that, "pleases God and also brings His blessing",
From this Saint's time to Ottoman, a proverb worth expressing.

His way of life transcends the ways in which men may be brothers,
Of Men of Trees and Buffaloes, of guilds of craft and others.
His acts and deeds would certainly give all of these a tonic
And possibly be wasted if singularly Masonic.

This great man's worthiness therefore does not appear a mystery
He'll not be in the annals, or books of Masonic history
But his Godly life, his chivalry, his honour and his piety,
Benevolence and charity would grace any great society.

November 2020 - July 2021, from the question, "Was St Nicholas a Mason"?

The verse from the children's song mentioned above.
Come girls and boys, hang up your socks and see them in a row,
For Father Christmas comes tonight as surely you all know.
Hush, hush, hush, so softly he will creep,
Hush, hush, hush, so mind you're all asleep'
For if a noise you make, perhaps he'll have to take
Those books and toys to girls and boys who do not stay awake.

Credit Tom Morgan

From the Editor

Brethren,

It's at this time of year we Sing carols and remember the real Christmas Message.

Together with the whole Provincial Communications Team I would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

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Scientific Lodge No. 88



Congratulations to Roland Brown of Scientific Lodge No. 88 who was presented with his 50 year certificate for services to freemasonry by V.W. Bro Tim Pearce Higgins Past Deputy Provincial Grand Master.

Pictured with Aldo Segura-Cabrera who at the same meeting was raised to a Master Mason on request of Fraternidad Lodge No 11. in Mexico.

Companions of Probity Chapter

Smiles all round as the Companions of Probity Chapter and their guests enjoyed a happy and fun meeting at Cambridge Masonic Hall today.

Congratulations to Steven Allen, ME Grand Superintendent of the Province of Norfolk, who was Installed as MEZ. He was supported by Companions of Cambridgeshire and our neighbouring Provinces along with a retinue of his own Provincial team.



This edition of The Second Rising has been produced by
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Please visit www.cambridgeshirefreemasons.org.uk
or contact your Lodge Secretary for more information.