



Week 64, 14th June 2021

Brethren, week 64 means we shall find out today how, or if, the next release from lockdown is going to happen, originally planned for the 21st June.

The other significant positive news takes our headline space, with the announcement that Freemasons are going to help 30,000 people take part in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. What a great way to raise awareness and provide such a valuable input to a wonderful scheme!

This month's lottery winners, advice on websites and several handy tool kits feature this week; along with links for a course for new members, and hear what our PCO has been up to, in our penultimate weekly edition!

As always, keep strong, keep positive, take the vaccine, and stay safe.

The Editor

Does your website need a spruce up?



Like all buildings and rooms, the websites that we run every now and then need a lick of paint to make sure that they are clean, tidy and up to date. The Charter Mark process, is to allow us to look at our websites and make sure that the information we are putting across is clear, concise and most importantly relevant to the people using our sites.

Websites are an excellent way for us to put across who we are, what we want to accomplish, and the information about our lodges; but we need to make sure that we understand who we are communicating to. Are we putting information on there for our members or for prospective members?

A lot of the people that are running or looking at creating a lodge website have never done it before, but fear not, there is plenty of help that you are able to call upon and these things can be a lot easier than you think. The Charter Mark Scheme is important to help the Province ensure that we are all looking at and updating our websites. When you feel that your website is ready, please email webmaster@worcestershireagl.org.uk and the team will then look over your website, and when ready will award the site with the Charter Mark which you will then be allowed to put on your site.

...and news on the Provincial Website!

Every website needs updating which is why even the Provincial Website is being rebuilt to keep it relevant and easy to use for its members. The new website which is looking to be ready for September, will be streamlined with new ways to sign up to events and encompassing a members area for secretaries for online forms. Watch this space!

Freemasons to fund 30,000 people on D of E

To commemorate what would have been HRH The Duke of Edinburgh's 100th birthday, UGLE and the MCF are delighted to announce a new strategic partnership with The Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE).

More than 30,000 young people with disabilities and special educational needs, will be able to take part in The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, thanks to a grant of £300,000 from the Freemasons.



To make it possible, UGLE and the MCF, have teamed up to enable the charity to reach at least 30,000 young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) by 2024.

The ambition is to increase the number of centres, such as schools and youth groups, offering DofE to young people with SEND and train hundreds of Leaders – trained individuals supporting groups of young people through their DofE journeys.

The programme has been designed to make DofE participation possible for students with diverse difficulties and disabilities. It will help the students to build crucial personal life skills, develop employability skills and become more independent, and aims to offer students the same experiences available to their peers in mainstream education.

The impact of achieving a DofE Award is remarkable and will be life-changing for young people with physical or learning difficulties, who are often excluded from adventurous activities due to a lack of accessible equipment, facilities, trained support staff and funding.

His Royal Highness, The late Duke of Edinburgh, who founded the DofE in 1956, was himself a Freemason, having been introduced to Freemasonry in 1952 at the age of 31 by his father-in-law King George VI. Throughout his 99 years, he was associated with some 992 charities, either as president, patron or honorary member.



Sunday 11th July

Pop on down to the Worcester Masonic Hall from 12-4pm to see a fabulous display of cars and motorbikes, together with food and other stalls. Access to the Library and Museum and temple is also available. Purchase your tickets in advance to get a discount for on the gate prices!

[Click Here for Tickets](#)

Also don't forget your sponsorship for the duck race, at the Worcester Rowing Club - with the potential to win a first prize of £250! Click [HERE](#) for an entry form.

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Click the icons to connect to our social media platforms →



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The bonus ball on Saturday was number 17, which resulted in a number of winners - 50% of which, go to Francis Burgess Lodge! A heartfelt thanks to you all for supporting the lottery, as ever we continue to raise money for our named "good causes"

which are The Midland Air Ambulance, Acorns Children's Hospice, and of course the 2022 Appeal. Please support the charities by playing the Provincial Lottery - only £5 per month could win you £100.

- J P Evans, Francis Burgess Lodge No. 9287
- C Grove, Francis Burgess Lodge No. 9287
- A J Munro, Avon Lodge No. 3569
- Anonymous participant

Click [HERE](#) for a Lottery application form.

Do you know your Kings from your Castles?

Well, if you realise the railway connection they you probably know a lot more about railways, so for some light-hearted fun, join Permanent Way Lodge No. 9951 on Friday, 2nd July at 8pm where they will be hosting a zoom quiz based on railways.

This came about when our Provincial Grand Master, Robert Vaughan (who is something of a railway buff himself), mentioned on social media that he had come across a 1950s, Ian Allan, 'Railway Quiz' book (price 1/6) and suggested that Permanent Way Lodge might host such a quiz - and our PGM agreed to be the quizmaster!

You might recall that in issue 25 of the 'Square News', there was an item about this particular lodge. The invitation is being extended beyond the immediate lodge members, to any brother who knows precisely the difference between a 'King' and a 'Castle', and might like to try his hand at winning the prize, which will be railway related.



Provincial Grand (Quiz) Master and railway raconteur

It is intended to support Festival 2022 with the quiz and all we ask is that participants make a donation to the Festival, the amount being left entirely up to themselves.

Should any brother wish to join in the fun, then contact the Worshipful Master, David Shrimpton, by email (shrimpton101@yahoo.co.uk). Full details will then be sent, including how to donate to the Festival.

Ian Crowder

Members Toolkits

The UGLE Communications Team have produced some handy toolkits to help members with online communications, social media, writing articles and photography.

Click on each image to download!



Online Comms Toolkit



Photography Toolkit



Social Media Toolkit



Press Release Toolkit

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All Aboard!



The Rough Ashlar is a stone, rough and unhewn as taken from the quarry, until by the industry and ingenuity of the workman it is modelled, wrought into due form, and rendered fit for the intended structure.

Onboarding for Entered Apprentices



Following on from the successful courses for Fellowcrafts and Master Masons, Solomon have now launched "Onboarding for Entered Apprentices".

It is a course of four weeks' duration taking no more than 2-3 hours per week. It is intended for brethren who have recently undertaken their initiation ceremony (say in the last couple of years under the current circumstances), though more experienced Freemasons are welcome to join.

To enrol on the module, go to:

<https://solomon.ugle.org.uk/course/view.php?id=130>

You need to sign in first. Don't forget to scroll down to the "Enrol me"

Massive audience dials in to the Royal Arch

The latest edition of Solomon Live, hosted by our own PCO Brody Swain, aired on Wednesday 9th June. This month was a discussion with the Third Grand Principal, M E Comp Gareth Jones OBE, about "The Mysteries of the Royal Arch"



A fantastic audience of over 1200, were treated to a sparking dialogue exploring the history of the Order, its meaning and relevance to all Freemasons; Gareth's personal journey and Grand Chapter's plans for the future.

If you missed the session, a recording can be found [HERE](#) (along with all the past recordings too).

We are very fortunate to have such an excellent PCO in Brody and his talents have obviously been recognised at UGLE!

If this has encouraged you to consider completing your journey in Antient Freemasonry, further information can be found on the Provincial website [HERE](#)

Article by John M Phenix, MEGS

Worcestershire 2022 Festival (E2022) donation

<https://gtap.uk/e2022>

Queries on using the QR Code? see our [Digital Donations video guides](#)

