



Week 33, 2nd November 2020

Brethren, week 33 and we turn over into another month, with Halloween gone but Guy Fawkes looming, and Christmas is starting to be mentioned!

This will be the last issue of Square News overseen by Jonathan Swift as the PCO, as he announces his "retirement" from that tenure. Next week will see a profile of his replacement!

Hear how Richard Nokes joined us at the ripe old age of 21, and how his printing firm has coped with the pandemic, including the printing of our Masonic Year Book and other Masonic requirements!

We of course have a new National Lockdown coming this week and I'm sure further guidance will be given over the next few days so watch this space. Keep strong, keep positive and stay safe.

The Ed

Richard Nokes



Communications officer, experienced and recommended, has vacant days.

Our PCO Jonathan Swift, is stepping down and he reflects on his past 5 years....



It's been a long time since John Ling told me that I should expect it would take me 10 minutes a day as Provincial Communications Officer, that was back in September 5 years ago.

Of course the last eight or nine months seems like another five years.

At the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic I recognised the compelling

need to move away from our quarterly Source magazine to a more urgent newspaper style with reports and important information. I was immediately encouraged by the PGM and Mike Dykes APM, necessarily to focus on retention and recruitment.

Throughout my tenure I have been greatly encouraged by the support and help of an enthusiastic and talented team who equally share the challenge to communicate with members and the wider community. I have enjoyed their patience and thank them all for their work with our Provincial website, our social media platforms, the local press and Square News.

My thanks to all contributors for your steady flow of photos and words and especially to those who opened up to interview with my successor the effervescent **Brody Swain**. I wish him well and much enjoyment in his new role as PCO from the 1st November, he is a communicator par excellence and a team player.

Best wishes, Jonathan.

For the past five years Jonathan has been entertaining, educating and keeping us informed about our masonic activities and the good work that we do for the community at large. This has never been so important as during this pandemic. On behalf of all the members of the Province of Worcestershire I thank Jonathan for the enormous commitment that he has given to this vital role, to the unfailing good humour that he has shown and the tremendous amount that he has achieved.

Our Province has much for which to thank Jonathan and we wish him and Isabelle very well for the future.

With best wishes, Robert Vaughan

The man behind the title.... By John Fennell



It has been my pleasure to have been able to speak to our Provincial Grand Charity Steward David Dey about his role and more importantly about himself which gives a great insight to the person behind the title. In his own words he describes many years of his charity work:

"The office of Charity Steward is a busy one but so rewarding especially this year. When asked by the PGM to become Provincial Charity Steward I was very honoured but also apprehensive. However with the continuing support from the Brethren and the MCF I have been able to build on the good work of my predecessors.

I first became involved in charities over 50 years ago when a friend of ours lost her young son to Leukaemia. Sylvia and I joined the local committee for Cancer Research. In 1973 I became a member of Worcester Round Table who raised funds for many local charities. Worcester Talking Newspaper for the Blind was one of the charities we supported. They record the news from our local newspaper onto cassette (now computer pens) which is then distributed to over 300+ Visually Impaired people in Worcester. My mother being registered Blind was one of their first listeners. Sylvia and I became and still remain volunteers. Sylvia took on the role of Worcester Chairman and National Chairman and was honoured with an MBE for her services to Charity in 2007.

Throughout the years I have rattled collecting tins in the High Street, built playgrounds, decorated old people's homes, organised summer trips, arranged old folk parties, charity balls, built community bonfires, sold off land from our local Commandery and even been Father Christmas in a Christmas grotto made of polystyrene blocks..... health & safety would have a breakdown!

I became a Freemason in 1995 joining Page Lodge in Worcester and I have been proud of the charity work undertaken by Freemasons locally and nationally.

This year the need to support our community has been more important than ever. An immediate response was given in April when we delivered 30 Galaxy tablets to Worcestershire Royal Hospital to allow patients to communicate with their loved ones. The PGM allowed the use of funds remaining from the Triple Century Appeal and we received an additional £38,000 from the MCF for distribution within the Province. To date we have made over 50 separate donations totalling in excess of £45,000. Our support includes organisations making masks and PPE, transport for the elderly and disabled, scouting, donations to local food banks and many more community projects. During this pandemic Worcestershire Freemasons have given almost £100,000 locally. However more help is needed and our support for the MCF and in particular Festival 2022 is now more important than ever. "

As our PGCStwd has mentioned we have been very successful in our charity work during Covid 19 but it is only through your hard work and deeds that allows this to happen and continue. So please let me know of your charity donations and how work in your community is going so that this information can be shared across Worcestershire. Contact John Fennell [HERE](#)



"We have to decorate the Christmas Tree in the Cathedral at the end of November" shouts David Dey who needs some help from an artistic brother, and a set of LED lights but first and in particular, a Brother with design and artistic skills.

Contact: david2dey@gmail.com

Leslie and Ivy Pountney Trust

The trust was established in 1994 in memory of WBro LH Pountney, a much loved former Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies. The name of his widow Ivy, who had been a substantial benefactor of the Fund, was added on her death in 2001 at the request of her second husband WBro RN Child himself a substantial donor.

The trustees make grants to young people to help with the funding of educational projects particularly in the cases where parental means are limited. Vocation courses, sporting tours, purchase of musical instrument, a gap year activity such as teaching in the Third World are among the things that have attracted funding in the recent past. The trustees will consider any nominations put forward by Lodges in the Provinces of Worcestershire and Warwickshire preference being given to children of Freemasons. Details from the Provincial Office.



I'm a club welfare officer
 I'm a volunteer
 I'm a Worcestershire Freemason

To find out more, why not visit our website www.worcspgl.org

#worcsmasons
 Provincial Grand Lodge of Worcestershire

Volunteers to appear in the latest social media campaign 'I'm a Worcestershire Freemason.....'

Please send a photo of yourself and let us know information about your job title, interests, or hobby. Submissions please to the [Provincial Communications Officer](#).

This week listen to WBro **Richard Nokes**

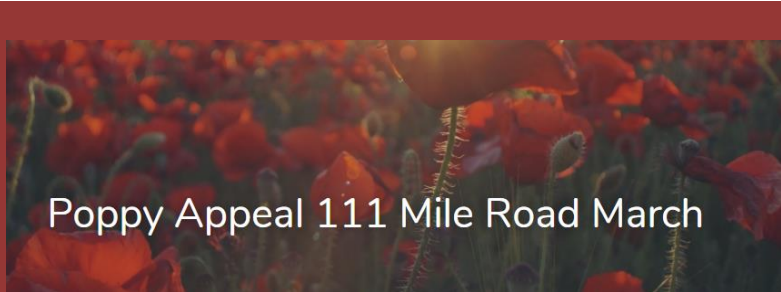


Richard is well known through many of the masonic orders and joined masonry at the age of 21.

His firm prints the Masonic Year Book amongst other masonic stationery, so hear how he copes in the current environment.



Provincial Communications Officer: Jonathan Swift (jonathanswift10@btinternet.com)
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Poppy Appeal 111 Mile Road March

Luke Ford and WBro Karl Nicholson Godson Lodge No. 2385 are road marching 111 miles over 11 consecutive days with 11kg dead weight in aid of The Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal 2020 - aiming to finish at Worcester Cathedral War Memorial by 11:00 on the 11th November 2020, trying to raise £1111.11p

They reasoned that the RBL Poppy Appeal might struggle this year, and after the success of a similar walk they did back during the lockdown in May (road marching 100 miles in 14 days with 10kg dead weight) raising £1137 for the RAF Benevolent Fund, they thought they would do it again but upping the stakes to make the challenge more difficult, and of course this time in the cold and no doubt wet!



Donations would be greatly accepted and can be made [HERE](#)

Following the Sun, Chris Overall, ProvGMentor



Now winter is upon us we would normally follow the sun and long for a holiday somewhere warm. As you know we do the same in our lodge meetings - we open it in the east where the sun rises and close in the west where it sets; we always leave a seat from the left and return to it from the right. Even walking around the lodge is clockwise just like the sun's progress.

Can't wait till we can follow the sun again inside and outside the lodge.

Keep warm and safe

50 years and onwards.....WBro Mike Talbot, was a member of Kings Heath Lodge No.3863 from his initiation on 7th November 1970 to 2006. He also joined and is still a member of the De-la-Pole Lodge No.1181 in Seaton, Devon in 2002, and will now be celebrating his 50 years in Freemasonry on 7th November 2020. The secretary of the De-la-Pole Lodge in Seaton has arranged for a framed certificate to be provided to WBro Mike.

If any Brethren would like to congratulate Mike on his 50 years in Freemasonry then please do consider sending him a note or a card, as I am sure he would really appreciate it. He is still a very spritely 87 year old with a sharp mind. I have arranged for a celebratory Kings Heath Lodge card to be signed by our Worshipful Master and those other five stalwarts of our Lodge who will be attending the relocated Lodge meeting in Worcester on the 7th November 2020. Details from the almoner [Tony Griffin](#)

Also - a 'Called Off' white table talk on 7th November 2020 at 14:00 hrs. Everyone is welcome. Their Charity Steward says they will pilot the digital charity giving as well!



[Check your COVID Tier Level](#)