

# SOURCE



The newsletter of Worcestershire Freemasons

*PGM Retirement Special*

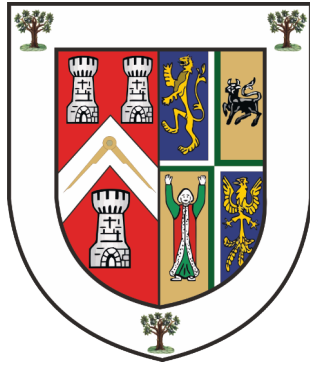


# FOREWORD

This special edition of the Source is to mark the retirement of RWBro Robert Christopher Vaughan, as Provincial Grand Master for Worcestershire. Over the last nine years he has successfully presided over a period of immense societal change and latterly operated under the challenging shadow of Covid.

At the heart of this edition is a personal message from the PGM to all the brethren of the Province of Worcestershire. He has also personally selected a photomontage that illustrates the many and varied activities that he has supported or been part of during his time in office. Finally, there are a few thank you messages, testimonials, and best wishes from a number of well-wishers.

Brethren of Worcestershire, on your behalf we thank him for the contribution that he has made, for his dedication to Freemasonry and the exemplary way he has represented the Province of Worcestershire. We extend our heartfelt thanks to him and Stephenie along with our very best of wishes.



# A MESSAGE FROM

## RWBro Robert Vaughan and his wife Stephenie

Dear Brethren,

As I count down the days to my retirement I am grateful for having been given the space to share a few thoughts with you.

Since I was initiated into the Lodge of St George over fifty years ago, the world has changed greatly and many aspects of Freemasonry with it. We are much less rigid in the way that we do things and new members and the public at large appreciate that and we are in a place from which we can increasingly attract good candidates.

However, our tenets remain unchanged, as does the responsibility for all of us to continue to "prove to the world the happy and beneficial effects of our ancient institution".

It has been an enormous privilege to have been your Provincial Grand Master and great fun, but things move on. Our responsibility now is for all of us to give Stephen Wyer our maximum support and encouragement and he and Helen will be able to enjoy their time as much as we have.

My thanks to everyone who I have met along the way, both within Worcestershire and beyond. They are too numerous to mention and many are now lifelong friends. It has been a fascinating journey and I hope that there is much more to come. Most especially my thanks to Stephenie, without whom I could not have done it.

Our very best wishes for the future to you all and your families,

Robert and Stephenie



Somehow in the spotlight at the magnificent Tercentenary Celebration at the Royal Albert Hall-2017



The biggest surprise of all. The Pro GM coming to my 50th.



My last Provincial Grand Lodge - 2021



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*John Robert,*

Thank you for your letter of 25<sup>th</sup> April informing me of your intention to retire on 13 May as the Head of Worcestershire Freemasonry.

Your 9 year stint as Provincial Grand Master has indeed been most fortunate for the County, and the generosity of Freemasons under your leadership has been something of a beacon of hope and comfort for many individuals, especially during the pandemic.

As you reflect on your time in office, I hope it has given you the kind of satisfaction that you deserve, and that your retirement will be with the happiest of memories. Certainly, it will be with the grateful thanks of Worcestershire and all the communities that your work as Provincial Grand Master has served, so selflessly.

*With so many thanks and best wishes,*

*Yours sincerely,*

*Patrick*



1. New Provincial Wardens for my successor
2. Three Past PGMs
3. Playing with cars
4. Signing the Armed Forces Covenant - 2022
5. Having the great opportunity of leading the team to install the Master of London's Malmesbury Lodge with our Extended Workings
6. Some great events - the Gloucestershire and Warwickshire Steam Railway. I'm pleased to say that it reached Worcestershire during my time!
7. Presenting Richard Goddard with his 50 Year Certificate
8. Remembrance Sunday at Redditch
9. Sadly missed. John Overton, the driving force behind Acorns Children's Hospice





1. Kids' Fun Day at Cannon Hill Park. Too much fun.
2. Just a few of the hundreds of beneficiaries of the 2017 Triple Century Fund
3. Helping to consecrate a Warwickshire lodge
4. Emily Draper, the Worcestershire Cathedral stone mason who created the Stone Victoria Cross receiving presentation Working Tools from the Grand Master.
5. Lodge Glittering Star (IC). A significant part of the history of Freemasonry in Worcestershire
6. Some amazing characters along the way. Ken Wilkinson-one of the last of "The Few"
7. Emily Draper at work





Dancing in the Grand Temple - the Tercentenary Ball

*"To be fifty years a mason and a Provincial Grand Master of a province I suspect is a rare event. On behalf of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Warwickshire I want to extend our enormous congratulations on achieving this tremendous milestone. We are incredibly proud of the relationship we have between Warwickshire and Worcestershire. You are a special man and deserve all the accolades."*

RWBro Phil Hall – Provincial Grand Master Warwickshire

*"Congratulations Bob. Thank you for being a great PGM for Worcestershire and a very good friend to Shropshire too."*

RWBro Roger Pemberton – Provincial Grand Master Shropshire

*"Many congratulations. We in Staffordshire Province send you our best wishes. Well-deserved and congratulations."*

RWBro John Lockley – Provincial Grand Master Staffordshire



In regalia in Redditch



The 2022 Festival launch at the Chateau





The late Richard Price's 60th - April 2022



Three Choirs Festival Tercentenary Concert at Worcester

*"RWBro Bob, on behalf of myself, the brethren of your neighbouring province of Herefordshire may I offer you hearty congratulations on the achievement of 50 years in Freemasonry. What a special milestone it is. All the best."*

RWBro Michael Holland – Provincial Grand Master Herefordshire



"Cheers" Sir



One of WMMC's many great events



With the Gwynns at their beloved Gower



The Dedication of Staffordshire's Memorial Garden at the National Arboretum - 2017



ANZAC Day Birmingham. The 2015 Centenary



1. Please continue to support TLC  
2. Being a Grand Sword Bearer  
3. West Midlands Air Ambulance  
4. A helping hand for Kidderminster CC  
5. Great support at Dudley for Michael Simpson's 50th. One of very many well deserved long service awards.  
6. How NOT to do it!  
7. A piece of history - the consecration of Custos Lodge  
8. Ken Wilkinson giving Prince William lots of advice  
9. Consecration of the Isle of Man Stewards' Lodge

