



Week 62, 31st May 2021

Brethren, in week 62 we can report a fantastic milestone, in that our first Worcestershire Lodge saw its return to physical meetings. Please send in any photos of when your own Lodge makes its return to the “new normal”, so we can all celebrate with you. The new guidelines have recently been issued to all, and also in more detail to all secretaries, but a high level summary is contained within.

There are of course global areas that are struggling, and you can read how Freemasons are helping. A quick reminder to get your tickets for the car display and duck race, and we feature the next in our series on progressive orders.

And finally, please welcome to our team our new Deputy Editor, Bro Adam Lewis.

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

The Editor

We're back !!

Lodge of Peace and Goodwill No. 6010 held the first meeting in the province on Saturday 22nd May. Our PGM was in attendance, as well as our latest Grand Officer, WBro Ed Baker. The lodge normally meet at Kings Heath, but this meeting was held at Northfield.



(Ed – commenting that the suits still fitted, Bro Ed replied that his suit was from 2007 and now fits nicely – however he was royally trumped by the PGM, who commented that his shoes were from new in 1986, from being a warden!)

Emergency food for Indian families

Families and children experiencing severe poverty in India during the COVID-19 pandemic, will be receiving vital emergency support, thanks to a grant of £50,000 from Freemasons to Plan International UK. The £50,000 grant is enough to provide an expected 1,700 emergency food parcels, for some of the most vulnerable families whose livelihoods have been affected during the pandemic.

Health services across India, have been overwhelmed by the latest wave of coronavirus. Freemasonry, through the United Grand Lodge of England (UGLE) and Masonic Charitable Foundation (MCF), is responding with Plan International, to support them by providing essential items and training.



Millions of families have already exhausted their savings during a five-month lockdown across the country. Livelihoods and jobs have been lost, and families all over India are struggling. Necessities like food, and the hygiene materials they need to stay safe, the collapse of savings coupled with food shortages, mean thousands and thousands of children, especially girls, are going hungry. Freemasons contributed to the grant, from the Masonic Charitable Foundation, which is funded by Freemasons, their families and friends, from across England and Wales.



IMPORTANT JOINT STATEMENT FROM THE PROVINCE

The communication regarding Suspension of Masonic Meetings circulated on behalf of the Provincial Grand Master and the Grand Superintendent on 30th March 2021 indicated that the situation would be reviewed at the end of May 2021.



• Since May 17th, Masonic meetings of up to 6 are permitted, however if a Masonic Centre has conducted an appropriate Risk Assessment to minimise the transmission of Covid infection then **meetings larger than 6 may take place up to the maximum capacity indicated in the risk assessment** but in any case, no more than 30 people.

• The original intention of the Government to relax all restrictions from 21st June 2021 may now be in doubt due to the spread of the new “Indian variant” of the virus and we await future pronouncements in due course. Under these circumstances, we can best recommend that you plan for the lifting of restrictions but be prepared for a continuation of them.

• We are cognisant of the fact that despite the relaxing of Covid restrictions, many members and indeed complete Lodges/Chapters may be reluctant to recommence physical meetings. In such instances we would remind you of the facility under the Temporary Emergency Measures issued by UGLE and SGC and valid until end December 2021 for Craft Lodges and Royal Arch Chapters to apply for a temporary suspension of their meetings for a period of 3 months. To facilitate this, two thirds of the members must agree in writing before an application for such suspension is submitted to the Provincial Office for approval by either the PGM or the MEGS as appropriate.

• Please note: Further specific details have been issued to your secretary direct, which cover the most common circumstances and procedures to adopt.

Please remember that no Brother or Companion should be urged to attend if he does not feel comfortable in doing so, the health and well-being of our members is, and always will be, our number one priority and whilst restrictions remain in place, the Province recommends the wearing of face masks at your meetings.

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New Deputy Editor



Square News talks to Bro Adam Lewis, who has just been appointed as Deputy Editor, and who will be working alongside and supporting our current Editor.

Adam quotes..“I was initiated into Freemasonry and The Sabrina Lodge No. 6595 on 1st February 2018, and raised in the February 2019 meeting, just prior to the first lockdown. I am secretary of Sabrina and also Semper Fidelis Lodge of Instruction.

I work in the Insurance IT industry delivering software solutions to insurance companies and brokers across the globe. I have been fortunate over the years to visit some fantastic places and had many good, and a few bad experiences. Examples include after work meetings on the beach in Grand Cayman to a confrontation with an angry mob in Zimbabwe!

Hobby wise, I still do my best to move around a five-a-side football pitch doing my best to ignore the shouts of "Pass the ball grandad!". I also like to brew my own beer and wine, and I like to think of myself as being a bit of a dab hand round the kitchen.

The hidden mysteries of nature and science?

Paul Weber continues in his quest to understand more of the “progressive” orders. This week the SRIA.

The Societas Rosicruciana in Anglia (SRIA), is an independent Society bringing the Rosicrucian Philosophy to Masons. It is not just another Masonic Order. Membership is available to all Master Masons who believe in the Trinitarian Christian

Faith, and who express a desire truly to extend their research into the hidden mysteries of nature and science.

The Society provides the thoughtful Mason with direction, structure and resources, for his enlightenment in working out the great problems of life - and help him better to appreciate his relationship with his fellow men, as well as his creator.

Membership of the Society offers the potential of personal improvement, and the development of an esoteric and philosophical understanding of the great issues in life.



Members are expected to carry out research and participate in discussion that may arise as a result. The Rosicrucian fraternity is dedicated to the education of like-minded individuals in spiritual, philosophical and ethical truths of the highest levels.



The Society has an extensive library which is situated in Grand Lodge.

The philosophy of Rosicrucianism is founded on the aspirations of its founder Christian Rosencreutz, who was a German of noble birth and monastic education. In the 15th century, he travelled to the East where he discovered the Secret Wisdom. As a result of his learning in the East, he conceived a plan for simultaneous and universal religious, philosophic, scientific and artistic reform. For the realisation of his plan, he united with others to form, what he called, the Rose-Cross.

The Society is international and is governed by The Supreme Magus and his High Council. Members meet in Colleges - in this Province there are four Colleges which are under the direction of a Chief Adept, each College is presided over by a Celebrant. A member of the Society is called a Frater, (Latin for “brother”) and members are called Fratres, (brothers). Fratres progress through a series of nine grades, accumulating knowledge along the way; each grade has its own colourful and impressive message which is designed to inspire the frater to further study.

Check it out at <https://www.southmidlandssria.co.uk>

Masonic Car Display and Duck Race

Don't forget to join us on Sunday 11th July for one, or preferably both of these events, in aid of the Festival 2022.

There will be over 100 cars and motorbikes on display at Worcester Masonic Hall (plus other stalls, food etc) from 10am to 4pm, and in the afternoon there will be a full race card, (including the duck race), with our inter-province rowing challenge at Worcester Rowing Club at 1.00pm.

To pre-book your tickets for the Car Show, click

To sponsor a duck in the Duck Race, click

Can you help to get our Twitter followers to over 4,000?

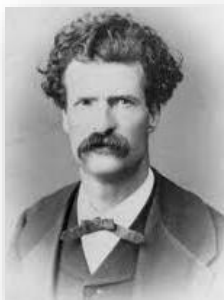
We are still agonisingly close now at 3,918!

Just follow our feed @WorcsMasons



Famous Freemasons..

May 22nd, 1861, saw Samuel L. Clemens initiated as an Entered Apprentice, into Polar Star Lodge No. 79, in St. Louise, Missouri.....



You may know him better as **Mark Twain** :)

NHS SOCIAL CARE & FRONTLINE WORKERS' DAY 5 JULY 2021

WE THANK YOU

A reminder that Freemasons are supporting the NHS Social Care and Frontline Workers' Day, on 5th July 2021.

We will use this day to pay tribute to the brave staff on the frontline of the pandemic.

The 5th July, 1948, was a historic moment in our country's history. It was the day our pioneering National Health Service (NHS) was born, bringing free healthcare to everyone.

Flags, banners, tea parties, street parties and a whole host of other national events are being planned.

You can find out more about the events that are being planned [here](#)

Worcestershire 2022 Festival

(E2022) donation

<https://gtap.uk/e2022>

Queries on using the QR Code? see our

[Digital Donations video guides](#)

