



Week 59, 10th May 2021

Brethren, Week 59 sees a link between our "View from the East" volunteer, and the series on Freemasonry side orders (our volunteer being part of many!). We feature another set this week too.

A save the date event for the Festival Regatta day, which is being held over two centres this year – Worcester Rowing Club for the inter province challenge, and also at Rainbow Hill for a Masonic Car and Motorbike display.

Some other competition news for those into clay pigeon shooting, and an interesting article from our Provincial Membership Officer. Also a reminder to register for what should be a very interesting talk, from E Comp John Phenix, MEGS, on all things Royal Arch.

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

The Editor



View from the East

This week, Ed Kimpton chats to WBro Tim Wild, WM of Elmley Castle Lodge No. 6247. Tim is the managing director of his own Environmental, Health & Safety consultancy.

Initiated in 2009, Tim still has a great enthusiasm for all of his Freemasonry activities; not only in Craft, but also Chapter, the Commemorative Order of St Thomas of Acon and the Religious & Military Orders of Malta and KT, where he will be installed as Eminent Preceptor this Autumn.

Being active in several orders simultaneously is difficult, how have you managed this?

Since joining freemasonry, I have been in 'learning mode'. Craft ceremony is now well known to me, so I consider that 'banked knowledge'. Everything else is incremental, building on what I already know, as a result I have the confidence and the discipline to manage this.

How do you approach learning?

I focus on one thing at a time, if I try to learn too many things together, I mix them up. I concentrate on what's coming next, then start on the next ceremony; whichever order that is in.

A good mentor is the most important role in the lodge. I have been fortunate to have a first-class mentor, who has guided me well and still takes an interest in my masonic career.

How was your Journey to The Chair?

I took all offices in the run up to the chair, whilst simultaneously holding offices in other orders. I have never stopped learning - it's one of the most positive things that I have done.

What memories do you have of your Installation & the year that followed?

It's a bit hazy but was a fantastic spectacle, everybody was smiling and really 'willed me on'. In turn, I felt 'I've got to do this right'. In my first year as WM, we had three firsts, a second and a third. We still have a couple of seconds, three thirds and initiations in the offing. Some traditions had dropped away so I reinstated them to get back to the traditions of the lodge and I was fully supported by the Past Masters in my endeavours.

We welcomed over 100 on our Severn Valley Railway trip and a Boat Trip, raising significant funds for F2022. Our Ladies Night at the Chateau Impney, was a spectacular and resounding success with over 100 guests, both masons and partners, again raising funds for The Festival

How do Freemasonry and your Job interact?

My occupation makes me look at things differently, it's all about pre-emption and planning, I approach my masonic activities on the same basis. Professionally, I always refer to notes and never felt I had a good memory, but Freemasonry has taught me, that if I approach things correctly, my memory is fine.

Any Final Words of advice?

Never look up a ceremony on-line, it always spoils the surprise.



National Masonic Vehicle Association

MASONIC CARS DISPLAY

Sunday 11th July 2021

Worcester Masonic Centre, Rainbow Hill, Worcester WR3 8LX
 Display Vehicles: Free + 2 burger discount vouchers/crew
 Visitors: £5/adult to include burger and drink (under 12s free)
 Display vehicles access 10.00am: Visitors from 12.00pm

Vehicle displays . stalls . food . Masonic Museum

For all bookings & enquiries contact:
 Peter Hughes at peterchristine@aol.com

In support of

INTER PROVINCE CHALLENGE REGATTA

First race 1.00pm
 Headline Race featuring Sir David Wootton Asst GM and crew

DUCK RACE

Worcester Rowing Club, Grandstand Rd, Worcester WR1 3EJ
 Contact: David Davis at david.davis@djdarchitects.co.uk

All proceeds to Worcestershire Festival 2022

Watch this space – Tickets on sale soon!

Vernon Lodge complete the circle...

Bro's Ian Redfern and David Bedford from Vernon Lodge No. 560, have completed their Easter Challenge cycle around the Stourbridge Ring, in aid of Festival 2022. Their current sponsorship total stands at an impressive £1,600!



After an early start in the rain at 07.30, a few diversions along the route, and what sounded like several stops at local hostleries (all covid compliant!), it was all completed as planned - Including halfway around an encouraging visit from the PGM and his wife Stephanie.



An Audience with... Worcestershire Provincial Grand Lodge

E Comp John M Phenix
Most Excellent Grand Superintendent of Royal Arch Chapter
Wednesday 12th May 2021 - 7pm

This will be a fascinating talk about the important relationship between the Craft and Royal Arch, the history, what the Royal Arch is, what you can expect to get out of being a member, who can join and how to join.

[Click here to register](#)

New Members and Subscriptions...

"But, I paid £150 February last year – I've not been to a meeting since then and now I have to pay again? Is that fair?"



I can imagine the above situation, has played on the minds of a number of secretaries, mentors and membership officers, who may have brought new members into their lodge – just before the pandemic shut everything down.

How unfair it seems, to ask these newly made brethren to put their hand in their pockets once again, without having much to justify it. Alas, (despite Masonry being free!) this is a situation we could well find ourselves in, as the subscription clock resets, so – please consider the following, before the topic is broached with any new brothers... I hope it helps in some way.

Supporting New Members & Explaining subscriptions:

Firstly, explaining what the subscriptions are, where the money goes, how it helps and why we have them. To give £150 blindly, is harder to accept, than understanding the necessity and benefits.

Secondly – for those who may be facing financial hardship, furlough, job losses or other significant changes – consider the York Brookes Fund and a suggestion for the brother to make an application. Remember, applications must come from the brother himself, not by way of Lodge Almoners or secretaries.

Third – discuss spreading payments over the year via standing order - £12.50 per month is easier to manage than £150 in one go. Lastly, would the lodge potentially support new members, assisting with their subscriptions or offsetting some for another time?

WBro Nick Thomas - Provincial Membership Officer

How to use the QR code to donate....

Clearly, over the past 12 months it's been difficult to record any donations without physical meetings – However, using the QR code or URL, its very straight forward to record a donation to the Lodge. Just point your smartphone camera at the square and follow the instructions. If you are having trouble, the link below has some videos which explain in detail.

[Digital Donations video guides](#)

Worcestershire 2022 Festival (E2022) donation

<https://gtap.uk/e2022>



The Allied Masonic Degrees (AMD)



Next in our series from Paul Webber on the side orders in Freemasonry, sees him delving into a series of Masonic degrees, conferred by **Councils of the Allied Masonic Degrees**.

The Allied Masonic Degrees form an appendant order of Freemasonry that exists in some Masonic jurisdictions; its degrees are conferred only by invitation. Councils of the Allied Masonic Degrees exist in Great Britain, the United States, Canada, France and Australia, and their members also educate one another by presenting research papers on Freemasonry.

For eligibility in its membership, you have to be a Mark Master Mason and Royal Arch Companion.



The entry degree is the Order of Saint Lawrence the Martyr. This is the requisite for participating in Council meetings. The other four degrees, which can be taken in any order, are Knight of Constantinople, Grand Tilers of Solomon, Grand High Priest, and Red Cross of Babylon.

In England and Wales, the Order of the Secret Monitor, once part of the AMD, now has its own independent conclaves.

The Order is administered from Mark Masons' Hall in London.

In 1865 a Council of Knights of Constantinople was formed in Devonport, Plymouth. In 1910 three remaining councils, Numbers 33, 34 and 35 conceded to the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees; but in doing so, obtained for themselves the right to wear their own distinctive apron, and the privilege and exclusive right to confer the degree as practised by the Plymouth Councils since 1865. Only Christian brethren are eligible to join the Plymouth Working.

In Scotland, there is no direct equivalent of the Allied Masonic Degrees, nor are the degrees for which it is responsible, carried out under the auspices of any of the Scottish masonic bodies; although the 'Red Cross of Babylon' is a truncated version of the Scottish 'Babylonish Pass' degree, under the control of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland. There is no reciprocal agreement on intervisitation in the 'Lodge & Council' degrees, between the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland and the Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees. Nonetheless, the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees of England and Wales and Districts and Councils Overseas, has been recognised since 2004, as a 'Masonic Body in Amity with The Grand Lodge of Scotland'.

Clay Pigeon Fancier?



The First Home International Masonic Clay Shooting Championship was held at Doveridge, Derbyshire in 2019, with fellow Masons and Clay shooters from the Grand Lodges of England, Scotland and Ireland.

Following the gradual easing of restrictions, the Second Championships have now been arranged for Saturday 16th October at the National Shooting Centre, Wester Jawcraig, in Scotland.

To register for the 100 bird sporting competition and for further details, please see www.glosca.co.uk/events