



The Magic of the Mark

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NEWSLETTER

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W.Bros. Bryan Simpson and Barrie Percival



On Tuesday 11th December 2018 a party of Mark Brethren boarded a coach at Syston Masonic Hall, bound for London. First stop was the Lutterworth Masonic Hall to pick up more Brethren, after a welcome hot drink and bacon cob. The journey was unhindered, arriving at Mark Masons' Hall for a buffet lunch, which was up to the usual high standard. Afterwards, the party of supporters, continued the journey to the Masonic Hall in Great Queens street. The meeting was led by the Pro Grand Master, M.W.Bro. Raymond John Smith, who invested W.Bros. Bryan Simpson and Barrie Percival with well deserved Grand Rank Honours. The return journey was also unhindered and refreshments were plentiful. Our thanks go to the organiser, W.Bro. John Goodacre, his assistant, W.Bro. Michael Cocks, who both worked tirelessly throughout the day to keep everyone well supplied with food and drink. Our thanks also to Martin Sercombe for organising the bacon cobs and pork pie, Emily Davison for the tongue and ham cobs and Indira Patel for her samosas. All in all, a thoroughly enjoyable day. Roll on next year.

William Kelly RAM-Elevatee



On Monday 8th October 2018, the Commander, W.Bro. Alan Coleman and his team of Officers, welcomed Bro. Elliott Harris as a Joining member and also Elevated Bro. Carl Ackers into the William Kelly Lodge of RAM. He was ably assisted by W.Bros. Steve Finnigan, Roger Quantock and Bro. Philip Caswell. The official visitor, W.Bro. Geoff Phipps, presented a Grand Lodge certificate to Bro. Richard Barnett. The meeting was well attended and the Festive board was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

From left to right, the Elevatee, Bro. Carl Ackers, the Master, W.Bro. Alan Coleman and Joiner, Bro. Elliott Harris.

Fidelity Mark-Advance



On Monday 3rd December 2018, The Worshipful Master Bro. Stephen Smith with the assistance of his team of Officers, Advanced Bro. Stuart Voce into the Fidelity Lodge of MMM No. 491. The official visitor was W.Bro. David Milner, the Provincial Senior Warden, shown here on the left. Also in attendance was the PGM, R.W.Bro. Phillip Mann, the Past DGM, V.W.Bro. Ghanshyam Patel and three Grand Officers. The Secrets were presented by W.Bro. Stuart Cooper, the Working Tools by V.W.Bro. Ghanshyam Patel and the Concluding Address by Bro Guy Adkins. W.Bro. David Milner presented a Grand Lodge Certificate to Bro. Paul Rayne. An excellent Festive Board followed and a cheque for £161 was given to the PGM for his Discretionary Fund. The evening was well attended and the atmosphere was tremendous. I'm sure that the candidate will prove to be an asset to the Lodge.

St. George's Mark- Installation



On Wednesday 7th November 2018 the WM, Bro. Christopher Packham with the assistance of his Officers, Installed the new WM, Bro. Ian Johnson into the Chair of St. George's Mark Lodge No. 1133. The PGM, R.W.Bro. Phillip Mann was in attendance, together with many Grand Officers. The Address to the Master was given by WBro. Colin Cranmer, to the Wardens W.Bro. David Wykes, to the Overseers V.W.Bro. Mike Jacobs and to the Brethren W.Bro. Elliot Harris. The Working Tools were presented by Bro. Nitesh Bhundia and the Keystone Jewel by WBro. Peter Kinder. The PGM presented a Grand Lodge Certificate to Bro. Nitesh Bhundia.

Altogether, there were 47 in attendance, including the AGM, R.W.Bro. Stephen Davison and the PPGM, R.W.Bro. Anthony Morris.

The Festive board continued the enthusiasm of the event and a good time was had by all.

From left to right, the JW, Bro. Martin Herbert, the PGM, R.W.Bro. Phillip Mann, the new WM, Bro. Ian Johnson and the SW, Bro. Brent Goodwin.

25th Sandbanks Weekend 2018

The 25th anniversary was held at the Haven Hotel in Sandbanks, Dorset, set along the beach with a beautiful backdrop to the sea, and a stone's throw from Brownsea Island and the Bournemouth Pier.

The organiser of this fantastic weekend is W.Bro. Rick Morris, who had to draw upon all his experience of past years organising the event to ensure that the 25th anniversary stood out as one of the best yet, and that he did.

On arrival to the hotel, guests were greeted by an information and welcome pack, containing vital information of the festivities being held on the Friday and Saturday evenings. As the day progressed on Friday, the hotel and lounge area began to fill with familiar faces as the hotel was taken over by families from all over our Province, as they began to relax and enjoy a fun weekend. All were welcomed by the Provincial Grand Master of the Mark Degree, R.W.Bro. Phillip Mann and his wife Ruth.

Drinks and canapes were served in the lounge on the Friday evening, before the restaurant was completely filled by Mark Masons and their families. A superb meal was had, before being entertained by none other than Britain's Got Talent finalists, the D-Day Darlings who sang throughout the evening. Keeping the true spirit of the wartime era alive, The D-Day Darlings sang the heartfelt harmonies that kept Britain smiling through its darkest times with popular WW2 songs such as 'We'll Meet Again, I'll Be Seeing You, Land of Hope and Glory, and Bless Em' All.

Saturday is generally a day of reflection, relaxation, and sightseeing, as people dispersed to the four corners of the county, seeking out local attractions and peaceful walks.

Not to be content with just one superb evening, the Saturday night was orchestrated superbly by W.Bro. Rick, as guests were treated to fine dining, and entertainment from the king of the swing, Mr Dean Thomas, who had the tables singing along to some of the all-time greats. After everyone had eaten well, the Festival organiser, W.Bro. Rick took the microphone to deliver his now legendary toast to the Provincial Grand Master, the Mark Degree in general, and those who had assisted in the organisation of the weekend. This is always a popular moment in the weekend, which is eagerly awaited by most, but viewed with dread by those who know that they will be called upon by W.Bro. Rick.

As it was such a special occasion, a second act was to follow, with popular hits from the 70's and 80's performed by the group, Rewind.

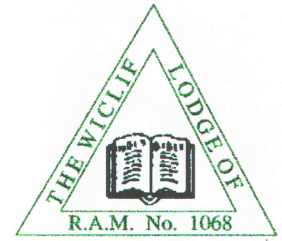
A slower start to the Sunday morning, as most of the brethren began to plan for the journey home, whilst others continued their holiday by staying a few extra days.

An absolutely stunning weekend, proving that Leicestershire & Rutland really does have the Magic of the Mark.

Bro. Richard Barnett



Wiclif RAM-Official Visit



From left to right, the DPGM, W.Bro. Don Peacock, the candidate, Bro. Earl Harrison, the Master, W.Bro. Bruce White and the PGM, R.W.Bro. Phillip Mann.

On Wednesday 19th September 2018, the Wiclif Lodge of RAM No. 1068 was honoured with the presence of the PGM, R.W.Bro. Phillip Mann and his team of Officers on an Official visit.. The Commander, W.Bro. Bruce White, on this occasion, handed the gavel and Chair to the PGM, who then placed the Provincial team into the various offices. The Candidate, Bro. Earl Harrison was then Elevated into the Wiclif Lodge. The occasion was well attended and the Festive board was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Howe Lodge of RAM-Elevatee



From left to right, the JW, W.Bro. Michael Gyles, the WCdr. Bro. Tony Fraser, the Candidate, Bro. T. Peter Ayris and the SW, Bro. Michael Mee.

On Monday the 12th November, the WCdr, Bro. Tony Fraser and his team of Officers Elevated Bro. Peter Ayris into the Howe Lodge of RAM No. 21. The AGM, R.W.Bro. Stephen Davison was in attendance, together with many other distinguished visitors. The WCdr. was assisted by W.Bro Graham Jackson who explained the signs and by W.Bro. Stuart Cooper who explained the Working tools.

Oliver Lodge of RAM No. 751



On Monday 9th November 2018, the Commander, WBro. Bob Greenlees Installed WBro. Richard Heap into the Chair of the Oliver Lodge of RAM No. 751. The Address to the new Master was given by WBro. Bob Greenlees. The Official representative, the Provincial Junior Warden, WBro. Geoff Phipps, presented the Book of Constitutions & Regulations and the By-Laws and also presented a Grand Lodge Certificate to Bro. Naishad Chhatralia.