



The Magic of the Mark

T W I S

NEWSLETTER

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W.Bro. Geoff Phipps
Grand Steward



W.Bro. Steve Johnson
P.A.G.Sword Bearer



W.Bro. David Bull
P.A.G.Sword Bearer



On Tuesday 11th June 2019, a coach left Syston with supporters of those receiving Grand Rank Appointments at the Mark Grand Lodge meeting held at the Masonic Hall, Great Queen Street, London. A further pick up at Lutterworth, enabled those on board to enjoy a coffee and bacon cob before continuing the journey. Ham and tongue cobs, made by the Assistant Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Steve Davison and Karen and various drinks were provided on the journey.

The supporters are shown above at the Masonic hall Lutterworth, after the event, where an excellent meal was provided by the caterers.

Our thanks go to W.Bro. John Stock and his helpers for organising the coach and meal. An excellent day was had by all.



Simon de Montfort Lodge of MMM-Advances



On Thursday 28th February 2019, the WM, Bro. Alan Coleman assisted by his team of Officers, Advanced Bro. Ashley Norton into the Simon de Montfort Lodge of MMM No. 194. The Candidate is shown in the first photograph with the Assistant Grand Master, RWBro. Stephen Davison and the Worshipful Master.

On Thursday 25th April 2019, the WM., Advanced another Candidate, Bro. Stephen Conway, who is shown in the second photograph with the Master and the Official Visitor, WBro. David Milner, the Provincial Grand Senior Warden.

On both occasions,

The Secrets were delivered by WBro. John Pinnock, the Working Tools and Concluding Address by Bro. Paul Prendegast

Fowke Mark Lodge-Advances



On Thursday 14th February 2019, Bro. Grant Cotton was Advanced into the Fowke Lodge of MMM No. 19 by the Acting WM, Bro. Michael Walker and his team of Officers. The Secrets were delivered by WBro. Stephen Finnigan, the Working Tools by Bro. Matthew Henshaw and the Concluding Address by Bro. Jaswant Gohil. The meeting was well attended
A raffle at the Festive board raised £155
From left to right, WBro. Stephen Finnigan, the Candidate, Bro. Grant Cotton, the Acting WM, Bro. Michael Walker and the Director of Ceremonies, WBro. Tony Fraser.



On Thursday 11th April 2019, Bro. Sominder Jandu was Advanced into the Fowke Lodge of MMM No. 19 by the WM, Bro. David Cooper and his team of Officers. The Secrets were delivered by the PDPGM, VWBro. Ghanshyam Patel, the Candidate's proposer. The Working Tools were explained by Bro. Matthew Henshaw and the Concluding address was given by Bro. Jaswant Gohil.

From left to right, the Official Visitor, Provincial Grand Junior Warden, WBro. Geoff Phipps, the Candidate, Bro. Sominder Jandu, the WM, Bro. David Cooper and the Past Deputy Provincial Grand Master, VWBro. Ghanshyam Patel.

Trip to India



Ghanshyam's party of Mark Masons and their partners, clothed in their distinctive uniform, for easy recognition during visits. Above, are the young elephants, enjoying their time in the water.

At the Elephant Orphanage everyone enjoyed watching the elephants bathing in the river and we had a superb view from the veranda which was specially reserved for the Group.

We had a fantastic climb up the Sigiriya as we were divided up in three groups, one who were energetic, the other one slow but tough enough to push the first one down and the third one was sober and stayed down in the Museum and enjoyed their time discussing the niceties of the Tour. We went for the bull-ock cart ride which was again thrilling as the carts went over the rough terrain breaking everyone's spine though everyone said it was a fantastic experience. The lunch at the village was superb and all were excited about the way it was served and also the venue. The elephant rides which were also welcome with a lot of enthusiasm and marvel. This was followed by another adventure when we went for the Jeep Safaris and were very lucky to see a big herd of elephants in the wild. We were very well entertained to an excellent, awesome and most enjoyable cultural show in the evening at the hotel. The bar made good business as special facility was given to some hard core ones to watch rugby when England was playing France. Touring Dambulla caves was another very educational and interesting experience which everyone praised. The trip to Kandyan dancers was very exciting and all were very amazed with the folk dances, particularly, the fire dances and walking on the fire.

Train ride from Kandy to Nuwara ELLIYA was very fascinating, quite new to some but thoroughly enjoyed by all. The view from the train was very inspiring and so pleasing to see us slowly gliding over the lush tea estates. Lunch at Grand Hotel was again excellent and enjoyed by all. Visit to the Tea factory with assistance from the local guides was very educational and a free cup of tea was welcome and appreciated by all!

Visit to the Temple of the Tooth was worth praising regardless of the large crowds which were slowly winding through the Temple. Our stay everywhere, whether at the Kumarakom Resort or at La Meridian, was comfortable. Welcome gifts for the ladies were most appreciated – not to mention the packets of local spices given to all. We went for sightseeing, learning about the old Church with the burial place of Vasco da Gama, Chinese fishing nets, Synagogue and the Dutch church. Everyone had a great time at Kumarakom and enjoyed the high tea with some Indian snacks. The pleasure boat ride at sunset was very serene and with the local musicians playing the flute and drum added softness to the end of the day. In the evening we were entertained by a Kathakali dancer at the dinner.

The last day at Cochin was especially remarkable as a Kathakali dance programme was specially organised for us- on a Sunday! Everyone was thrilled to watch how the make up for the performers was done. This was followed by the Dance by the duo to the accompaniment of singing and music in the background. A most unusual and awesome presentation was done and received tremendous accolade and applause. Our Coaches, both in Sri Lanka and Kerala, were comfortable and spacious and it was a great advantage to have two coolers which were always well stocked with beer and water.

Rutland Mark Lodge Installation



From left to right, the new Master, W.Bro. Richard Sage, Bro. Paul Waterfall receiving his Grand Lodge Certificate and the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, W.Bro. Don Peacock.

On Wednesday 8th May 2019, the WM Bro. Carl Pickering, Installed Bro. Richard Sage into the Chair. The Assistant Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Stephen Davison and the Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Phillip Mann, were in attendance. The official representative was the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, W.Bro. Don Peacock, who presented the Warrant, Book of Constitutions and Regulations and By-Laws of the Lodge. The address to the new Master was given by W.Bro. Mel Cowley, to the Wardens, W.Bro. Paul Wright, to the Overseers, R.W.Bro. Phillip Mann and to the Brethren, W.Bro. Keith Hallam.

The meeting was well attended and the evening was rounded off with an excellent Festive Board.

A raffle raised £153 which is to be donated to the 'Hello Charity' for underprivileged children to go to Mablethorpe.

Simon de Montfort RAM-Installation



From left to right, the Senior Warden, Bro. Alan Marshall, the new Commander, W.Bro. Darren Bowles and the Junior Warden, Bro. John Stock.



On Monday 20th May 2019, the WCdr. Hemant Trivedi, Installed Bro. Darren Bowles into the Chair. The Deputy Provincial Grand Master, W.Bro. Don Peacock was in attendance as the official visitor and presented the Warrant, Book of Constitutions & Regulations and the By-Laws of the Lodge. The address to the new Commander was given by W.Bro. Bryan Simpson.

W.Bro. Don Peacock presented a Grand Lodge Certificate to Bro. Michael Waring and gave a comprehensive explanation of its contents. He also presented a Grand Patrons Collarette to Bro. John Stock for his donation to the Mark Benevolent Fund.

The Festive board continued in the same spirit and an excellent meal was had by all. A raffle raised £136.90 which was donated to the PGM's Discretionary Fund.