

The Magic of the Mark

TWI6DECEMBER 2020

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The Virtual Annual Business Meeting of the Mark Provincial Grand Lodge took place on the evening of Wednesday 28th October, during which as Presiding Officer, I was pleased to address over one hundred of our Mark Masons.

The meeting was honoured by the presence of the Assistant Grand Master, R. W. Bro. Steve Davison, the Grand Secretary R. W. Bro. Ryan Williams, and several Heads of other Orders meeting in this province.

During my Address I talked about the significant events, a very few of which I can but summarize here, that have featured in the life of our Province since the advent of the General Suspension in March.

In stressing the most important priority of all - that of the health and well-being of our members, loved ones, and our widows; we are reminded of the great success of the Keystone Boxes that did so much to lift the spirits of our most vulnerable back in the spring. I yet again express my heartfelt gratitude to our Mark Masons for their wonderful and unstinting generosity in the cause of charity, and many disbursements have been made from our charitable funds with the most generous being to Devonshire Court (£5,000), The East Lancashire M.B.F. Festival 2021 (£3,000), the M.B.F. through the sales of T@3 mugs (£462), a further £2,000 towards the Craft's 2022 Festival and £2,000 support for the Freemasons' Hall, Leicester Appeal. Whilst two Mark and one Royal Ark Mariner meeting have taken place since the lifting of the suspension in July, the alternative of holding Virtual Business Meetings is proving very popular with Lodges in formally dealing with their essential administrative Lodge business, as are the informal and more frequent virtual social get-togethers on Zoom. Sadly, with the holding of face to face Lodge meetings now suspended for the time being, I have been encouraging all Lodges to use the virtual medium to regularly meet together and maintain contact - and why not invite Advancees and Elevatees in waiting to join in. I do ask that you make a special effort that those unable or unwilling to use this technology be kept included please by whatever means you can, particularly for our more elderly and most vulnerable.

The meeting concluded with a very informative Address from the Grand Secretary in which he reinforced the pro-active nature of the measures that Grand Lodge has employed to the adverse impacts on Mark and Royal Ark Mariner Masonry caused by the pandemic, and is very encouraged by the positive response from the membership.

Brethren, Andy Lee and I thank you for your support and your wonderful commitment to our two Orders. Keep smiling if you can and may the Great Overseer and Supreme Commander of the Universe bless and keep you all safe from harm.

Phillip J. Mann

Mark Provincial Grand Master for Leicestershire & Rutland

Fidelity Mark-Advancee





From left to right, the Master, W.Bro. Paul Brinkworth, the Candidate, Bro. Stephen Moody and the Prov.G.M, R.W.Bro. Phillip Mann.

On Monday 2nd December 2019, the Master, W.Bro. Paul Brinkworth, with the assistance of his Officers, Advanced Bro. Stephen Moody into the Fidelity Lodge of M.M.M. No. 491. The Secrets were explained by W.Bro. Andrew Lee, the Working Tools by W.Bro. Stuart Cooper and the Concluding Address was given by W.Bro. Tom Mee. The Prov.G.M., R.W.Bro. Phillip Mann presented a Grand Lodge Certificate to Bro. Mark Woodward, who gave a comprehensive explanation of its contents. A raffle raised £94 which was donated to the P.G.M.'s Discretionary Fund.

Wiclif Lodge of R.A.M.-Elevatee







On Wednesday 4th December 2019, the Commander, W.Bro. Brian Peel, with the assistance of his Officers, Elevated Bro. Mark Hancock into the Wiclif Lodge of R.A.M. No. 1068. Forty attended the meeting, including the Prov.G.M, R.W.Bro. Phillip Mann, who presented Mark Benevolent Fund Collarettes to W.Bro. David Milner and Bro. Peter Faulkner. The Provincial Grand Junior Warden, W.Bro. Ken Hitchen presented a Grand Lodge Certificate to Bro. John Small. The Signs were explained by W.Bro. Martin Fletcher, the Working Tools by W.Bro. David Milner and the Address after Elevation was given by W.Bro. Reg Dickinson. A raffle at the festive board raised £240 and was donated to the Prov.G.M.'s Discretionary Fund.

William Kelly Lodge of R.A.M.





On Monday 9th December 2019, W.Bro. John Peberdy was Installed as the new Commander by W.Bro. Anthony Wood, assisted by his Officers. Over forty Brethren were in attendance, including the Dep.Prov.G.M., W.Bro. Don Peacock, who presented a Grand Lodge Certificate to Bro. Peter Barnes, giving a comprehensive explanation of its contents. He also presented the Warrant, Book of Constitutions and By-Laws of the Province and Lodge.

The Address to the new Commander was given by W.Bro. Colin Cranmer. An excellent Festive board followed, continuing the happy atmosphere of the occasion

Wiclif Mark Double



On Wednesday 22nd January 2020, W.Bro. Malcolm Longley, with the assistance of his team of Officers, Advanced Bros. Darrell Hill and James Robertson, into the Wiclif Mark Lodge No. 1068. There were 32 Brethren present, including six Grand Officers.

The Secrets were given by W.Bro. Geoff Phipps, the Working Tools presented by Bro. Philip George and the Concluding Address by W.Bro. Bryan Dewes.

A Grand Lodge Certificate was presented to Chris German by W.Bro. David Milner.

An enjoyable Festive board rounded off an excellent evening.

From left to right, Bro. James Robertson, W.Bro. Malcolm Longley and Bro. Darrell Hill.

Wyggeston Mark-Advancee







On Tuesday 17th December 2019, the Master, W.Bro. Andrew Green, with the assistance of his Officers, Advanced Bro. Elliot Conway into the Wyggeston Mark Lodge No. 1149.

The Secrets were explained by W.Bro. David Pearson, the Working Tools by W.Bro. John Hallam and the Concluding Address was given by W.Bro. Richard Hallam.

W.Bro. Ken Hitchen, the Provincial Grand Junior Warden, was in attendance, 32 Brethren in all.

The evening was rounded off with an excellent Festive

Ashby de la Zouch Mark-Advancee



From left to right, the P.Dep.G.M., R.W.Bro. Michael Herbert, the Prov.G.M, R.W.Bro. Phillip Mann, the A.G.M, R.W.Bro. Stephen Davison, the Master, W.Bro. Peter Barnes, the Candidate, Bro. Ian Maw, the Dep.Prov.G.M, WBro. Don Peacock and the P.Prov.G.M, R.W.Bro. Anthony Morris.

On Wednesday 18th December 2019, the Master, W.Bro. Peter Barnes, with the assistance of his Officers, Advanced Bro. Ian Maw into th Ashby de la Zouch Mark Lodge No. 1783. There were 42 in attendance, including the important Grand Officers shown above. The Secrets were explained by W.Bro. Iain Walker, the Working Tools by Bro. Trevor DeLisle Barrow and the Concluding Address was given by W.Bro. Michael Langley. A Grand Lodge Certificate was presented to Bro. Martin Hall by the Dep.Prov.G.M, W.Bro. Don Peacock. A cheque for £500 was donated to the Prov.G.M's Discretionary Fund.

St. George's – Advancee



The W.M. Bro. Brent Goodwin with the Candidate of the evening, Bro. Steven Skidmore.



On Wednesday 8th January 2020, the W.M, Bro. Brent Goodwin, with the assistance of his Officers, Advanced Bro. Steven Skidmore into the St. George's Mark Lodge No. 1133.

There were 46 in attendance, including the P.Dep.G.M, R.W.Bro. Michael Herbert and 7 other Grand Officers.

The Secrets were delivered by V.W.Bro. Peter Kinder, the Working Tools by Bro. Matthew Bramley and the Concluding Address by W.Bro. Elliot Harris.

V.W.Bro. Michael Jacobs presented a Grand Lodge Certificate to Bro. Bharat Rana.

The Festive board continued the evening with a happy atmosphere and excellent food.

Howe R.A.M.-Elevation







On Monday 13th January 2020, the Acting Commander, W.Bro. Tony Fraser, assisted by his team of Officers, Elevated Paul Waterfall into the Howe RAM Lodge No. 1051. The A.G.M, R.W.Bro. Stephen Davison was in attendance, together with 6 other Grand Officers. The Signs were delivered by W.Bro. Graham Jackson, the Working Tools by W.Bro. Stuart Cooper and the Address after Elevation by W.Bro. Michael Harris. The Provincial Grand Junior Deacon, Bro. Ken Hitchen, presented a Grand Lodge Certificate to Bro. Alan Dawson.

Rutland R.A.M.-Elevation & R.A.M.G.R.







On Wednesday 8th January 2020, the Commander, Bro. Mark Hallam and his team of Officers, Elevated Bro. Ian Needham into the Rutland R.A.M. Lodge No. 1051. The A.G.M, R.W.Bro. Stephen Davison and the Prov.G.M, R.W.Bro. Phillip Mann, were both in attendance to witness the occasion and for the A.G.M .to invest W.Bro. Bruce White with Royal Ark Mariner Grand Rank.