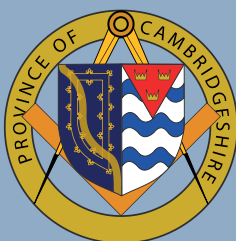


Discover Freemasonry in Cambridgeshire

INTEGRITY
FRIENDSHIP
RESPECT
SERVICE



What are your guiding principles?

Freemasons use four important guiding principles to help define their path through life: integrity, friendship, respect and service.

In today's world filled with uncertainty, these principles ring as true as they have at any point in the organisation's history.

One of the oldest social and charitable organisations in the world, Freemasonry's roots lie in the traditions of the medieval stonemasons who built our cathedrals and castles.



"Throughout my time as a Freemason, I'm humbled to have found the intimacy and warmth of our brotherhood, an experience truly unlike anywhere else."

DAVID
ST ANDREW LODGE

Membership is open to people from all backgrounds and the organisation's aim is to empower members to be the best they can be – it's about building character, supporting members as individuals, and helping them make a positive contribution to society.

"The bond of friendship is stronger in Freemasonry than anywhere else I've ever experienced. I have a wider, more diverse circle of friends than I ever thought possible."

DAVID
FENLAND
FARMERS'
LODGE



Freemasonry provides a structure for members to come together under these common goals, enabling people to make new friendships, develop themselves and make valuable contributions to charitable causes.

■ INTEGRITY:

Building good people

Rather than working on buildings like the masons of old, today's Freemasons focus on building themselves as people of integrity, and membership provides the structure to help achieve that goal.



"By being around fair minded and upright men who try to apply the lessons learned in their Lodges to their daily lives, it is natural to follow their example and do your best to apply the teaching to your own life."

HARRY
GRAY LODGE



"You try to build yourself into a better human being, into somebody who doesn't necessarily take the easy way out or do easy things, but tries to do the right things."

CLIFF
STONE CROSS LODGE

At an individual level, being a Freemason gives members a sense of purpose, supporting and guiding them on their journey through life. Collectively, members are bonded through a sense of unity and equitability – principles fundamental to Freemasonry.

THE HISTORY OF THE HANDSHAKE

Historically, stonemasons travelled from place to place to secure work. At this time, handshakes were commonly used as a means for stonemasons to identify themselves, proving their level of experience and indicating what position they held. Today, in recognition of this practice, handshakes are used ceremonially as a way of identifying progress within Freemasonry.

FRIENDSHIP:

Building together

One of the oldest social organisations in the world, Freemasonry is not defined by an ideology.

It is open to people from all religions and political persuasions, and provides the common foundation for friendships between members, many of which will last for life.



"Although my father was a Freemason, I had no real idea what to expect when I joined. The reality was that my 'family' grew overnight to the extent that two lodge members have become my closest friends; one became my best man, the other was chief usher when I got married."

RICHARD
GRANTA LODGE

Being a Freemason means something different to each person who joins, but whether looking to make acquaintances or develop their own potential, all members share a sense of togetherness that strengthens their ability to succeed and grow.



"Freemasonry has been in my family for generations. Both my father and my grandfather instilled in me the importance of honesty and charity, and taught me to strive to be the best person I can possibly be. Freemasonry is the embodiment of those ethics."

PETER
ST AUDREY LODGE

BUILDING FRIENDSHIPS FOR LIFE

From university schemes, to new masons clubs, to special interest Lodges, Freemasonry gives members many opportunities to make friends for life. Finding bonds with people who share common interests and meeting people from all different backgrounds are only some of the ways Freemasonry can help cultivate lasting friendships.

RESPECT:

Building unity

With a membership drawn from communities across the UK, Freemasonry brings people together irrespective of their race, religion or any other perceived differences that can divide us as a society.



"I love how inclusive Freemasonry is. We respect and welcome men from all walks of life, no matter your background, race, religion or what you do for a living. You are assured a warm welcome."

PAUL
LODGE OF THREE
GRAND PRINCIPALS



"Through its ceremonies, Freemasonry allows me to reflect on myself and the principles I value in my life. My experiences in Freemasonry helps to encourage respect for others and integrity of actions in my day-to-day life."

JOHN

LODGE OF UNITED
GOOD FELLOWSHIP

Our members are proud to be Freemasons, and they are encouraged to talk openly about what the organisation does and what it means to be part of it.

FEMALE FREEMASONS

There are two female-only Grand Lodges, the Honourable Fraternity of Ancient Freemasons (HFAF) and the Order of Women Freemasons (OWF). The HFAF and OWF follow exactly the same ritual and wear the same regalia as male Freemasons – and they often work closely with community and charity projects.

"My lodge holds its meetings at Cambridge Masonic Hall. We have around forty members, women of all ages and from a variety of backgrounds, but with one thing in common – our interest in the history and rituals of Freemasonry."

SUSAN

OWF GRANTA (LADIES) LODGE

SERVICE:

Building compassion

Whether participating in events, fundraising for a charitable cause or volunteering for public or community organisations, service is at the very heart of Freemasonry.

Our members make valuable contributions by donating time, resources and skills.

"Charity is an important aspect of Freemasonry for me, whether through financial contributions and fundraising or giving my time to help in the local community."

IAN

DESCENSUS AQUARUM
LODGE





"The generosity of Cambridgeshire Freemasons to support local, regional and national charities or individual appeals never ceases to amaze me."

DAVID
NOURSE LODGE

While staying within their means, individuals can make an important contribution at local, national and global level by giving both their time and money. Thanks to their efforts, Freemasonry is one of the largest charitable givers in the country, contributing more than £48m to deserving causes in 2018 alone. Freemasons don't only donate money – over 5 million hours of volunteer work was undertaken by Freemasons in 2018.

HOSPICE APPEAL

Cambridgeshire freemasons contributed a quarter of a million pounds to support the construction of the new Arthur Rank Hospice in Shelford Bottom. The Hospice is still supported by several lodges and individual freemasons, including Past Provincial Grand Master Rodney Wolverson, who volunteer their time each week.



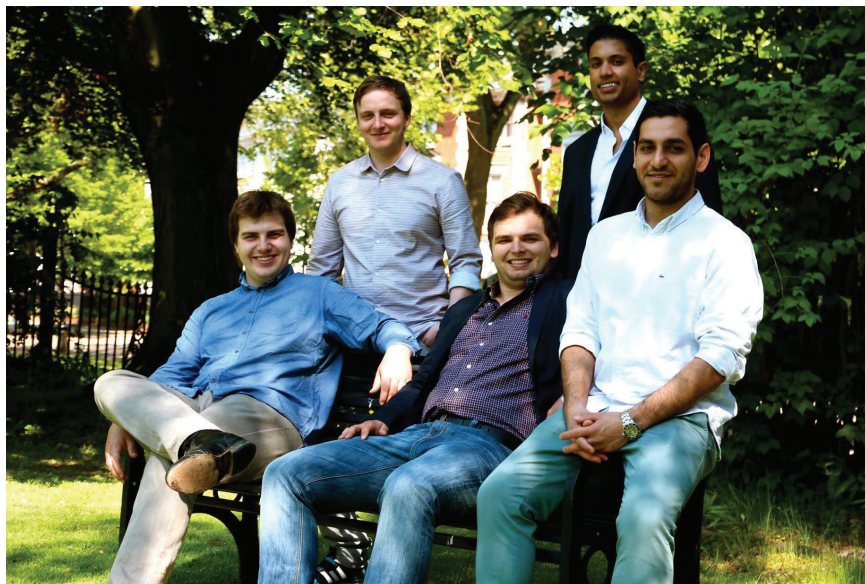
Membership

Becoming a Freemason means you'll be welcome to visit over 7,000 lodges throughout England and Wales as well as those in Districts around the globe.

Membership is open to any man over the age of 18 irrespective of their race or religion. Women can join one of two female-only Grand Lodges, while students are able to join one of the 81 University Scheme Lodges.

"Membership is open to everyone - it's about building character, supporting members as individuals, and helping them make a positive contribution to society."

ADRIAN
THIRKILL LODGE



Lodge meetings are typically held in two parts. The first involves more administrative procedures, such as proposing and balloting for new members and receiving news about charitable fundraising.

The second part focuses on ceremonies, which might relate to areas such as the admittance of new members or the installation of the Master of the lodge and his officers. New members are taken through a process made up of three degrees, (or stages), each one marked by a special ceremony conducted over a period of time.

In the spirit of friendship and togetherness our meetings are also social events where we can complement the formal elements with the opportunity for members to dine together, relax and have fun.

Outside of the Lodge, activities include community fundraising and volunteering activities as well as a varied programme of events where spouses, partners and families are welcome.

UNIVERSITY LODGES

“There are three ‘University’ lodges in Cambridge, with members including undergraduate and graduate students, alumni, staff, fellows, and senior members of the University and Colleges. The University of Cambridge and Freemasonry share the desire to make a significant contribution to society through the education and development of their members.”

SIMON

ISAAC NEWTON UNIVERSITY LODGE

Discover our Province

Small and closely integrated, where every member knows the Provincial Grand Master and visiting is widely enjoyed, the Province has 225 years of history.

From one Lodge in 1796 there are now thirty spread across seven centres, from Cambridge in the south to Wisbech in the north. Although Cambridge hosts the Provincial Office, every aspect of Freemasonry is represented somewhere in the Province and all centres are very active and closely linked.



CAMBRIDGE
MASONIC HALL

"Cheshunt College was bought in 1967 by the University Lodge and the City Lodges in partnership. Together they have made it one of the finest Masonic Centres in the country."

JIM

ALMA MATER LODGE



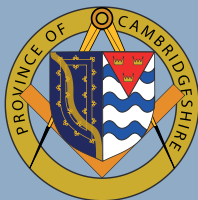
ELY MASONIC CENTRE
"You are guaranteed to receive a warm welcome at any of the four Ely Lodges, which often work together for social and charitable events. Just a stone's throw from Ely's magnificent cathedral and with an interesting military history, the centre is well worth a visit."

MIKE
SCIENTIFIC LODGE

The other six Masonic Centres in Cambridgeshire have been converted from an old 'Dame's school' (Chatteris), two Chapels (Wisbech and Whittlesey), an elegant 'Gentlemen's Club' (Newmarket), a Yeomanry barracks (Ely) and a WWII Wardens' Post (March). They are all widely different but in each case a unique and pleasant home for Masonry in the area has been created by the efforts of the Lodge members over time.

FINDING THE RIGHT FREEMASONRY FOR YOU

There are many specialist Lodges in Freemasonry and you can be assured of help in finding the right one for you. Fenland Farmers Lodge meets in the north of the Province while Cambridgeshire Meridian Lodge and Fenland Meridian Lodge are popular among members who prefer their meetings during the day.



To find out more about Freemasonry or for
information on how to become a member,
please email us at membership@pglcambs.org.uk

www.cambridgeshirefreemasons.org.uk

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UNITED GRAND LODGE
OF ENGLAND

www.ugle.org.uk



www.mcf.org.uk