

# The CAMBRIDGESHIRE MASON



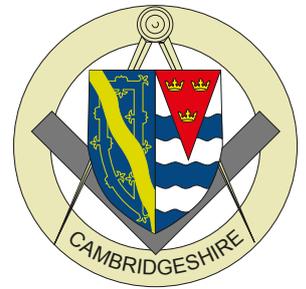
Cambridgeshire Masons



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## Grand Rank Appointments

Spring 2017 Issue 14

Three Cambridgeshire Masons have received first appointments to Grand Rank in the Craft with four more earning promotions and two others being reappointed.

First appointments go to WBro. Barry Ian Hoffbrand, of Alma Mater Lodge No. 1492, as Junior Grand Deacon, with WBro. Jonathan Lambert, of Etheldreda Lodge No. 2107 awarded the rank of Assistant Grand Standard Bearer, and WBro. Harry Rooke (right), of Gray Lodge No. 4334 receiving the rank of Past Assistant Grand Standard Bearer.



Promoted are WBro. Dr James Campbell, INUL No. 859 to Junior Grand Deacon, WBro. Dr Andrew Parmley, Alma Mater, as Past Grand Sword Bearer, WBro. Mark Stollery, INUL, as Past Senior Grand Deacon, and WBro. Christopher Freeman, INUL, as Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies.

Reappointed are RWBro. Jonathan Spence, of Alma Mater and INUL, as Deputy Grand Master, and WBro. David Staples, Stone Cross Lodge No. 6704, as Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies.

*Cliff Brown*

## Provincial Appointments

The Provincial Grand Master, RWBro. William Dastur has announced the appointments to Provincial Grand Lodge and, in his role as Grand Superintendent, those for Provincial Grand Chapter. The Senior Grand Warden will be WBro. John Surbey (below, left), of The Porta Lodge No. 9511 and the Junior Grand Warden will be WBro. Jim Haggarty (below, right), of Gild of St Mary Lodge No. 7288.

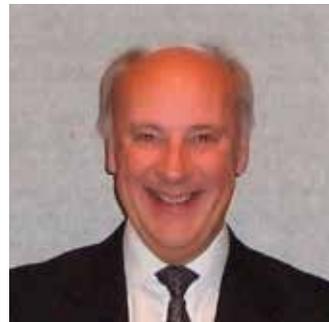


The new Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies will be WBro. Jonathan Lambert (below, left), of Etheldreda No. 2107, the current DepGDC, while his place will be filled by WBro. David Parker (below, right), of Kynaston Lodge No. 5810.



WBro. Kevin Mader, also Gild of St Mary, will be Provincial Grand Sword Bearer, with WBro. David Cameron, of Nourse Lodge No. 8590 as Provincial Grand Superintendent of Works, and WBro. George Brennan, of Grey Lodge No. 4334, as Provincial Grand Almoner.

In Provincial Grand Chapter, the new Deputy Grand Superintendent will be EComp. Tony Just (below, left), of St Etheldreda Chapter No. 2107. Replacing Tony as the 3<sup>rd</sup> Provincial Grand Principal will be EComp. Brian Elliott (below, right), of Kynaston Chapter No. 5810, who is himself retiring as the Craft's Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies.



The new Provincial Grand Registrar will be EComp. Bharat Khetani, of Etheldreda Chapter No. 809, with EComp. David Sculthorpe, of Chapter of Pythagoras No. 88 becoming Provincial Grand Sword Bearer.

*Cliff Brown*

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## Message from the Provincial Grand Master/Grand Superintendent

We are now in the Tercentenary year of the Craft and I hope all of you, like me, are looking forward to an enjoyable and exciting year. As we celebrate this historic milestone, we should try to ensure that we broadcast the strengths and values of the Craft to our local communities. This should be a celebration with them, our friends and our families. We may also be able to enlarge on and answer any questions that may arise after the broadcasting of the five-part TV programmes on Sky about the Craft, which, I understand, are due to go out in April/May. This is going to be a momentous year for us all.

Our opening event was the sixth Festival of Carols on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016 at Ely Cathedral, which raised £25,000 for the Cathedral and EACH (see page 4). The soprano, Laura Wright, was superb in what was again a very special evening - a great way to start our 300-year birthday celebrations with Ely Cathedral at capacity of 1,100 plus.

Our next events are the Variety Concert at West Road on 4<sup>th</sup> April and the Family and Friends Garden Party at Gordon Easton's Engine Farm at Coates on 24<sup>th</sup> June - the actual Tercentenary Day. I ask, and would encourage, everyone to support both.

The draw for tickets to the Grand Lodge celebrations on 31<sup>st</sup> October at the Royal Albert Hall and Evolution at Battersea will have taken place by the time you read this. While there will no doubt be some disappointed brethren, I shall do my utmost to see if we can get more tickets but the demand is immense.

I should like to urge you all to continue to support the Building Fund appeal to raise a significant endowment for the future of all our masonic buildings in the Province. You have been extremely generous, for which I thank you, but we need to keep the momentum going. There will be a fund-raising walk on 15<sup>th</sup> July (see page 5) and I hope many of you will join me on that day.

You will have read on the front page of the new Grand Lodge appointments, the new Wardens and also the next Third Grand Principal, as well as the appointments and promotions in Provincial Grand Lodge. To all of them I offer my congratulations on their well-earned rewards. They are all deserved but, of course, even more is now expected of them.

## Alma Mater at Mansion House

Members of Alma Mater Lodge No. 1492 attended The Guildhall Lodge No. 3116 dinner in The Mansion House, London, on 1<sup>st</sup> March to celebrate the installation as Worshipful Master of The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor WBro. Alderman Dr Andrew Parmley PJGD. Andrew Parmley was Worshipful Master of Alma Mater Lodge in 1995.

*Peter Sutton*



However, I want to single out the appointment of a new Deputy Grand Superintendent, EComp. Tony Just, and the impending retirement of EComp. Russell Jackson.

Russell has served the Royal Arch at a senior level for more than 10 years, and we all owe him a huge debt of gratitude. There will be many times over the next few months where we can render the many accolades and thanks he richly deserves. Our best wishes should go to Tony as he takes up the reins and helps grow this beautiful order in Cambridgeshire.

I hope you will enjoy this latest edition of The Cambridgeshire Mason with photographs and articles on the diverse and varied activities that have gone on in the Province over the last few months. What an amazing and inspiring organisation we have and how much you all do. It's such a great Province to lead.

I look forward to seeing a number of you at our annual Provincial meetings on 21<sup>st</sup> June, as well as at various lodge and chapter meetings in the next few months and I urge you all to have fun celebrating our 300 years.

*Bill Dastur*



## Promotions for INUL Past Masters

Two Cambridgeshire Masons have been awarded senior appointments in Metropolitan Grand Lodge and took up office on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2017. WBro. Mark Stollery PAGSwdB and WBro. Alistair Townsend PDepGDC, who are Past Masters of Isaac Newton University Lodge No. 859 and members of lodges in London, have been appointed to the rank of Metropolitan Grand Inspectors. Mark was Worshipful Master of INUL in 1991 and Alistair was in the chair in 2000.

*Cliff Brown*

## Nourse funds toys for school

Pupils at Icknield Primary School will get new playground toys thanks to a donation from Nourse Lodge No. 8590. A cheque for £320 was presented to pupil representatives by lodge almoner, WBro. David Smith.

*Roger Outram*



## New Farmers' Lodge ploughs a successful furrow

There was a full house for the consecration of Fenland Farmers' Lodge No. 9933 on 24<sup>th</sup> November. A turnout of 221 brethren from Cambridgeshire and many other Masonic Provinces witnessed the event held at Wisbech St Mary Community Centre.



This was the second consecration in the Province during 2016, following that of the Cambridgeshire Lodge of Provincial Grand Stewards No. 9927, and once again the Consecrating Officer was the Provincial Grand Master, RWBro. William Dastur. He was supported by the Deputy ProvGM, VWBro. John Sheriff, as Installing Master.

An oration on the meaning of the Fenland Farmers' Lodge and farming in general was given by the Provincial Grand Chaplain, WBro. Nigel Pett, PAGChap.

WBro. Gordon Easton PPJGW (Northants & Hunts), a farmer, had the honour of being installed as the Lodge's first Worshipful Master, with WBro. Bharat Khetani, PProvSGW, as Senior Warden and WBro. David Coupland PProvJGW as Junior Warden. Lodge Secretary and driving force behind the new lodge is WBro. Danny Ellis PProvGSwdB.

The new lodge has attracted founders and members from the farming community in Cambridgeshire and neighbouring counties. There are also initiates and joiners too and the lodge's first initiation took place on 16<sup>th</sup> December at its first regular meeting at Whittlesey.

The first initiate was WBro. Easton's son Roger, while the second was Jake Ellis, grandson of lodge secretary WBro. Danny Ellis, and son of member, Bro. Matthew Ellis, making three generations in the lodge.

Already becoming a popular lodge with visitors and producing large attendances, its regular meetings will be held on the second Friday in January, February, November and December, and third Friday in May. For contact details about the new lodge, see page 91 of the Cambridgeshire Masonic Yearbook.

*Cliff Brown*

*Photographs by Ian McClachan*



## Dinner aids Arthur Rank Hospice

Kynaston Lodge No. 5810 Christmas Festival Dinner, held at Bateman Street, Cambridge, on 16<sup>th</sup> December was not only an evening of fun and celebration for the brethren, their ladies and widows of Lodge members, but also an occasion to raise some much-needed funds for the Arthur Rank Hospice.

A cheque for £255 was later presented to Rebecca Beattie at the Arthur Rank Hospice by Lynda Wilson, wife of the WM of Kynaston Lodge, WBro. Lee Wilson.

Rebecca said that the Hospice greatly appreciated the support and confirmed that the money would be used for the assistance and comfort of relatives whilst visiting their loved ones in the Hospice.

*Lee Wilson*



*Lynda Wilson (left) with Rebecca Beattie of Arthur Rank Hospice*

## Festival of Carols raises £25,000



The Province's spectacular Festival of Carols raised £25,000 to be shared between East Anglian Children's Hospices and Ely Cathedral.

A sell-out attendance of 1,000 gathered for the sixth staging of the biannual event and enjoyed festive performances by the Suffolk-based soprano Laura Wright, the Gentlemen of Ely Cathedral Choir and Ely Imps at the cathedral on 9<sup>th</sup> December. The event featured a pre-concert and interval champagne and canape reception in the Lady Chapel.



"This was a truly magnificent service, with an outstanding venue and a series of beautiful carols," said Karen Newton, EACH's Cambridgeshire fund raising manager. "A big thank you to everyone involved with organising it and everyone who came along."

"The money we receive from this event will go a long way toward continuing our vital work caring for children and young people with life-threatening conditions and supporting their families."

*Peter Sutton*

*Pictures courtesy of the Cambridge Independent.*



## Planning for a Scouting lodge



The potential to form a new lodge associated with the Scout movement is being investigated, after the Provincial Grand Master, RWBro. William Dastur gave his support for the move.

Interest was raised at a lecture by 2012 Prestonian Lecturer, WBro. Tony Harvey PAGDC on 'Scouting and Freemasonry' given at Virtute et Fide Lodge No. 7959 on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2016. It was found a large number of the Brethren attending had a current or past connection with Scouting.

The small team looking into setting up the lodge in Cambridgeshire, which would probably meet at various Masonic centres in the Province, is keen to hear from any Brethren who would be interested. Please contact the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, WBro. Brian Elliott by email: [pgdc@pglcamb.org.uk](mailto:pgdc@pglcamb.org.uk)

*Brian Elliott*

## Calling all golfers

Entries are now being accepted for the Province of Cambridgeshire Masonic Golf Association annual competition on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May.

Taking place at Bourn Golf & Leisure Club, the event features a nine hole foursomes matchplay contest and an 18 hole stableford competition. The nine hole event, starting at 8.30am, is for lodge teams of two players.

The Stableford match, starting at 11am, is for individuals playing for four trophies awarded based on a golfer's handicap, and two age-group cups. There are trophies for the overall winner and for the highest aggregate score for three lodge members.

Association members may bring a Masonic guest. Entry forms, circulated to all lodges, must be returned to MGA secretary, WBro. Pete Corley ([pete.corley@sky.com](mailto:pete.corley@sky.com)) by 3<sup>rd</sup> May.

*Pete Corley*

## Past Provincial Grand Master celebrates 60 years in Freemasonry

A special presentation to mark his 60 years in Freemasonry has been made to RWBro. Colin Hutchinson.

Initiated on 26<sup>th</sup> October 1956, Colin became Worshipful Master of the Lodge of United Good Fellowship No. 809 at Wisbech in 1975 and served in the same role in Cambridgeshire Installed Masters Lodge No. 7429 in 1991. He became Deputy Provincial Grand Master to RWBro. Canon Hugh Barker in 1989 and was the 13<sup>th</sup> Provincial Grand Master for Cambridgeshire, a position he occupied between 1994 and 2005.

Following a rehearsal for the Consecration of Fenland Farmers' Lodge No. 9933 on the 18<sup>th</sup> November, the Provincial Grand Master, RWBro. William Dastur, accompanied by Deputy Provincial Grand Master, VWBro. John Sherriff; the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, WBro. Brian Elliott and the Provincial Junior Grand Warden, WBro. Tony Compton, visited Colin at his home in Wisbech.

RWBro. Dastur, our 15<sup>th</sup> Provincial Grand Master, made reference to Colin's illustrious masonic career. He continues his solid support for Cambridgeshire Freemasonry, and the visitors spotted a copy of the current Provincial Year Book at the side of Colin's chair.



The ProvGM and Deputy ProvGM with Colin Hutchinson and his wife Jean.  
Photo by Bharat Khetani

After the presentation a Certificate celebrating Colin's 60 years in Freemasonry, the visitors spent an hour with Colin and his wife Jean.

*Brian Elliott*

## Sponsored walk for building fund

Brethren and Companions in the Province will be getting their boots on and going for a walk. On behalf of the Province of Cambridgeshire Masonic Building Fund, a sponsored walk is being organised for Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July. It will consist of a comparatively sedate walk from three different Masonic centres and all meeting in the afternoon at WBro. David Watson's farm in Littleport for food and refreshments.

The emphasis will be on having fun and enjoying the summer weather.

Those wishing to take part can obtain sponsorship forms from their lodge charity steward.

*Justin Curtis*

## Receptions for new initiates

Following the success of last year's two centre event for new initiates, the Provincial Grand Master RWBro. William Dastur is repeating the initiative.

The two receptions will take place on 22<sup>nd</sup> May at the Masonic Rooms in The Crescent, Wisbech, and 23<sup>rd</sup> May at Freemasons' Hall, Bateman Street, Cambridge. These events will include tours of the buildings.

Invitations have been sent to Brethren initiated during 2016 and up to April 2017. They can invite their wives or partners. In attendance will be the ProvGM, Deputy ProvGM, Deputy Grand Superintendent and other senior members of the Provincial team, both from Craft and the Royal Arch.

*Pat Kilby*

## Nautical donation from Wisbech

Wisbech Sea Cadets have been presented with a cheque for £500 by the Wisbech Masonic Benevolent Fund. The presentation was made on behalf of the two Wisbech lodges by WBro. David Bays and WBro. Bob Kidger to Officer in Charge, Jade Merson, and members of TS Falcon.

Vice-president Barry Brown said: "We are extremely grateful for the continued support of the local Freemasons and this very generous donation. It will be split between the new kayaking fund and the ever-increasing running costs associated with maintaining our unit headquarters."



The Sea Cadets aim is to give young people the best possible head start in life through nautical adventure and fun, based upon the ethos and traditions of the Royal Navy. The unit is open to any young person between 12 and 18 and meets at its headquarters in Sandyland on Mondays and Thursdays. The junior unit for those aged 10-12 meets on Thursdays.

*Bob Kidger*

## Annual meeting date

The Annual General Meeting of the Province of Cambridgeshire Masonic Benevolent Association will be on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> May. All subscribing members of Lodges within the Province are eligible to attend the meeting at Bateman Street, Cambridge, starting at 7.30pm.

*Nigel Williams*

## Double initiation at Kynaston Lodge

Seventy five Brethren attended a double initiation at Kynaston Lodge No.5810 on 1<sup>st</sup> December at Freemasons' Hall, Cambridge. The initiates were Georgious Kontakos and Joel Soares.



Lodge Officers and assisting brethren (left to right): Bro. John Creek, Bro. Shaun Rawlinson, WBro. Tony Compton, Bro. Georgious Kontakos, WBro. Brian Elliott, WBro. Lee Wilson, Bro. Joel Soares, WBro. Bob Wordsworth, Bro. Ted Ridgway-Watt, and Bro. Richard Brindle

The Worshipful Master, WBro. Lee Wilson undertook his first ceremony since his Installation in a very competent way and was assisted with the candidates by WBro. Brian Elliott. The Senior Warden, Bro. Shaun Rawlinson, was assisted by WBro. Tony Compton and the Junior Warden, Bro Ted Ridgway-Watt, by WBro. Bob Wordsworth.

The Junior Deacon, Bro. Richard Brindle conducted both candidates through the ceremony in an exemplary manner, ably assisted by the Senior Deacon, Bro. John Creek. WBro. Andy Fordham undertook the Charge to the Initiate. The meeting attracted a large number of visitors from within and outside of the Province.

*Brian Elliott*

## Donation for Knit and Knatter Group

A group providing knitted items for hospitals, care homes, charities and international aid has received a £250 donation from the Wisbech Masonic Benevolent Fund.



The cheque presentation (left to right): WBro. David Bays, Judy Walsh, WBro. Steve Napier and Carole Rogers

The Knit and Knatter Group, which meets weekly at St Augustine's Church, Wisbech, will use the donation to buy wool for their charity knitting. The group is affiliated to the Norfolk Knitters & Stitchers and the majority of their work is done for charities and international aid, although some members also knit for themselves.

Many of the knitted items go to the premature baby units at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital at King's Lynn and the City Hospital, Peterborough, along with various care homes in Wisbech, the St Augustine's Day Centre and Wisbech's Sense shop.

"If any of our items are not required locally, they are given to Norfolk Knitters & Stitchers who donate to other charities at home and overseas," said Judy Walsh, of the Knit and Knatter Group.

*Bob Kidger*

## Gild assists hospital stroke unit

The Immediate Past Master of the Gild of St. Mary Lodge No.7288, WBro. Robert Wane, and his wife Tracey have presented a cheque for £800 to the Lewin Stroke and Rehabilitation Unit at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

Close family of both Robert and Tracey had previously been admitted to the unit, as had a past member of the Lodge, so they were very keen to give something back for the care and support that everybody had received.



Robert had designated the unit as his non-masonic charity for his year as Master, and the members of the Lodge were delighted to be able to be part of raising the magnificent sum for such a worthy cause.

Rehab 77, which is the R2 and Lewin Ward charity, was set up in 1977 with the aim of improving patients' rehabilitation. Since then, the fund has provided funds to nurses, therapists, doctors, and for the purchase of specialist equipment and improving the ward environment.

The fund is run by staff, volunteers and former patients. In the past few years, they have been able to buy a variety of items, such as speech therapy computer software, shower chairs, games consoles, wheelchair cushions, and garden furniture for the volunteer-run enclosed garden where patients can relax in a private environment.

Nicki Butler, the Senior Sister of the unit's Ward R2, said: "Rehab 77 is a separate and privately run charity, so every penny of contributions goes directly towards improving rehabilitation on the R2 and Lewin Ward, and it will be put to very good use. Thank you to everybody who contributed and especially to Rob and Tracey for making it their charity"

*Kevin Mader*

## Past Master hands over £2,250 to BIRT

Nearly two years ago a Past Master of Granta Lodge No. 6179 at Newmarket, WBro. Les Greig, had a huge fall resulting in severe brain damage. As a result, he spent more than 12 months receiving care, much in the Addenbrooke's Hospital Intensive Care wards, a care home in Bottisham and finally as a resident at the Brain Injury Rehabilitation Trust (BIRT) unit at Fen House, Ely.

It was at Fen House that Les made such massive progress, learning again to walk, talk and do those basic of personal tasks we all take for granted. This one-to-one intensive care treatment given by their dedicated staff eventually allowed him to return home and start living with some normality and quality of life.



The presentation (from left to right) Sarah Dybiec (occupational therapist), Rachel Fenner (physiotherapist), Les Greig, Roxanne Rolland (BIRT service manager), Lisa Thompson (activities co-ordinator)

A cheque for £2,250 was raised by Granta Lodge, Virtute et Fide Lodge No. 7959, Walden Lodge and Chapter No. 1280 (Essex), Icen Chapter Rose Croix No. 1126, the Cambridge & Isle of Ely Chapter Rose Croix No. 1157 and was presented to the staff at Fen House on 6<sup>th</sup> December. It will be used to improve local facilities for future residents.

Dan Heath

## Joiners achieve 50 years

Three joining members of Stone Cross Lodge No. 6704 at March have been honoured for achieving 50 years of membership of Freemasonry.

They were WBro. Bill Barry PPJGW (Northants & Hunts), who was initiated in February 1966 into Royal Kingston Lodge No. 5377 in Surrey. He joined Stone Cross in 2005. The presentation of a certificate, letter from the Provincial Grand Master and commemorative badge was made by the ProvGM's representative, WBro. David Blair PAGDC.

In November, WBro. Ron Fitall PPJGW (Herts) received his 50-year award from WBro. Tony Mason PAGDC. Ron, who joined Stone Cross in 2002, was initiated in Cheshunt St Mary's Lodge No. 6508 in November 1966.

The third member to achieve 50 years was WBro. Bert Flavell PPSGD, who was initiated in 1966 in St Paul's Lodge No. 6516 at Kettering, Northants. He joined Stone Cross in 1988. His presentation was made by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, VWBro. John Sherriff.

Cliff Brown

## Freemasonry universal in Scientific Lodge

The February meeting of Scientific Lodge had a distinctly international flavour. Initiate Ali Cimen, who originates from Turkey, was conducted around the temple by Deacons Bro. Florin Ciontu (Romania) and Bro. Gerhard Smith (South Africa). Friends from lodges in London, Cheshire and Turkey made the ceremony even more special for our latest member.

Michael Hinton

## Provincial Grand Master Dedicates Cambridgeshire Lodge of Provincial Grand Stewards' Banner

Sixty-five brethren witnessed the dedication by the Provincial Grand Master, RWBro. William Dastur, of the new banner of the Cambridgeshire Lodge of Provincial Grand Stewards. At the event on 22<sup>nd</sup> February at the Masonic Hall, High Street, Newmarket, the Provincial Grand Master was invited to occupy the Chair of King Solomon by the Worshipful Master, RWBro. Rodney Wolverson.

Supported by Provincial Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, the Provincial Chaplain and Provincial Director of Ceremonies, he conducted the dedication ceremony in an exemplary manner. During the ceremony, and in his Oration to the brethren, the Provincial Grand Chaplain WBro. Nigel Pett PAGChap, spoke about the symbolism of banners and flags.

The earliest known masonic banner is that of the York Lodge in 1776 so this banner for the Cambridgeshire Lodge of Provincial Grand Stewards No. 9927 follows in the long line of history. Many banners portray the very purpose and origin of the Lodge and in this case there is no doubt.

The banner was donated by RWBro. Colin Hutchinson PProvGM and the Lodge's first Immediate Past Master. The cornucopias, which are symbols of plenty, consisting of a goat's horn overflowing with fruit flowers and corn, is quite fitting, as Colin's agricultural inputs business helped farmers produce bountiful harvest. The banner was designed by WBros Peter Brindle and Brian Elliott, incorporating two cornucopias, meaning Stewards plural, and was handmade by Ms Nina Lambert at the Flag Workshop in St Neots.

Jim Stokes



## Donation to East Anglia's Children's Hospices

The East Anglian Children's Hospices have received a £1,000 cheque from the Order of the Red Cross of Constantine.

As part of the celebrations to recognise the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Grand Imperial Conclave for England and Wales and its Divisions and Conclaves overseas, the Grand Sovereign of the Order, M.III.Kt. Graham Flight GCC, decided that donations should be made from the Grand Sovereign's Care for Children's Fund to children's charities throughout the Divisions.



*Richard Hawes, John Elmore and Stephen Newman present the cheque to representatives of EACH*

The Intendant-General for the Division of East Anglia, R.III. Kt. Dr. John Elmore, was given the opportunity to nominate a children's charity located in East Anglia. His request for a donation to be made to the East Anglia's Children's Hospices was granted and a cheque for £1,000 was presented to the nursing staff at the EACH Treehouse Centre by the Intendant-General, the Deputy Intendant-General, III.Kt. Richard Hawes and the Divisional Recorder, III.Kt. Stephen Newman on the 6<sup>th</sup> December 2016.

The delegation were warmly received by Natasha Brame, the volunteer & fundraising coordinator for Suffolk, and given a tour of the facility.

The Division of East Anglia has two conclaves in Cambridgeshire – Corpus Christi No. 388 based in Cambridge and St Huna No. 525 in Chatteris.

*John Parker*

## OWL Centre gets £1,000 from Kynaston

A centre helping those with physical and psychological conditions has received more than £1,000 from a Cambridge lodge.

On 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016, WBro. Andrew Fordham, the Worshipful Master of Kynaston Lodge No. 5810, accompanied by WBro. Bob Wordsworth, Almoner, and Mrs Ellen Hamilton, widow of WBro. Stuart Hamilton, visited the OWL Centre at Pampisford, Cambs, to present to them a cheque for £1,022.60.



This sum, which will be spent on improving IT facilities, was raised by the members in honour of the late WM Stuart Hamilton, who was a keen supporter and volunteer at the Centre, part of the Papworth Trust.

OWL is short for Opportunities Without Limits, which provides support to those with physical and psychological conditions to live a more useful life. One of their great achievements is the rebuilding and servicing of old bicycles, which are then sold on.

Rob Brierley, senior service manager at Papworth Trust, said: "We are so grateful to every member of the Kynaston Lodge who has contributed to this fantastic donation. Improving our IT facilities, by installing wi-fi and buying tablets, has long been on the list for the OWL Centre as this kind of technology can be crucial in supporting the services we offer to disabled people as well as providing digital safety advice. We want to make sure that the services we provide are relevant to real life and technology is of course a huge part of people's lives."

*Bob Wordsworth*

## Deputy Provincial Grand Master 'advances' into Mark Degree

Deputy Provincial Grand Master, VVBro. John Sherriff took his fourth step in freemasonry and was Advanced as a Mark Master Mason at the Installation meeting of The Geoffrey Dicker Mark Lodge No.1960.

The meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at the Parkfields Masonic Hall in Diss, Norfolk, was attended by brethren from across the East Anglia Mark Province with a high number of Cambridgeshire Masons present to witness and indeed take part in the ceremony, including Provincial Grand Master, RWBro. William Dastur.

Before the Installation ceremony, the Worshipful Master, WBro. Paul Burniston, vacated the chair allowing the Mark Past



*John Sherriff (centre) with William Dastur and Paul Norman.  
Photo by WBro Tim Ridley*

Assistant Provincial Grand Master, WBro. Nigel Williams to conduct the Advancement Ceremony.

Other notable contributions were by Lodge officers, Bro. William Dastur as Junior Overseer and WBro Stuart Kerr as Junior Deacon. Mark Provincial Grand Master, RWBro. Paul Norman entrusted the secrets, WBro Tony Doggett presented the Working Tools, and WBro. Brian Elliott presented 'in conclusion'.

Before the meeting was adjourned for lunch, WBro. Burniston undertook an excellent Installation ceremony and installed his successor, WBro Peter Coles.

*Brian Elliott*

## Helping hand from Nourse

A centre providing safety and support for women and children experiencing domestic abuse has been supported by Nourse Lodge No. 8590. WBro. Alan Taylor handed over £2,100, raised during his year as Worshipful Master.



The Centre provides safety and support for women and children experiencing domestic abuse. The picture of the presentation also includes Christine Taylor, Christina Dye, chair of trustees, and Annie Munson, CEO.

*Peter Sutton*

## Support for Red Hen Project

A small charity that helps children and parents overcome barriers to learning has received a £500 boost from the Lodge of Three Grand Principles No. 441 at Cambridge. The sum, consisting of £250 from the lodge and £250 from The City & University of Cambridge Masonic Charitable Trust, was presented to the Red Hen Project.

The RHP is a small charity and support group that works in five primary schools in and around Arbury and Kings Hedges areas of Cambridge. It works with children and parents to overcome barriers to learning, covering issues such as parenting, behaviour management, physical and mental health issues, bullying, low self-esteem, family break-ups, bereavement, child protection and domestic violence.



*Christine O'Reilly, Liz Wright and Maria David, with WBro. Neil Almond and WBro. Bob Hammett*

After the presentation by the Worshipful Master, WBro. Neil Almond, and charity steward, WBro. Bob Hammett, the charity's project manager, Liz Wright, said: "We rely heavily on grants and donations from individuals and groups and are therefore extremely happy that you chose to support us. Without such support we would not be able to support the families that we do."

*Bob Hammett*

## Kynaston golfers raise funds for playgroup

A playgroup for children with disabilities has benefitted from money raised at the Kynaston Lodge No 5810 golf day. Held at Girton Golf Club on 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2016, the event included a two-course dinner and prize-giving by the Worshipful Master, WBro. Andrew Fordham. Special thanks were accorded to Bro. John Creek, of Godolphin Ltd, Newmarket, who provided some very good prizes for the golf day.



*Golf day prize winners (left to right): WBro. Charlie Brown, WBro. Chris Bull, WBro. Martin Crutchley, WBro. Andrew Fordham and WBro David Parker*

The day raised £107, which was donated to the Impington Opportunity Playgroup for children with disabilities. Playgroup organiser, Sally Abbott, said that they would spend this money to purchase some new outdoor toys.

At the golf event, the Lodge Cup winner was WBro. David Parker with the runner-up being WBro. Martin Crutchley. The Visitors Cup was won by WBro. Chris Bull, of Thirkill Lodge No 7333, with the runner-up being WBro. Charlie Brown, of Nourse Lodge No 8590.

*Trevor Smith*

## Air Ambulance aid from Wisbech

Wisbech Freemasons have donated £2,000 to the East Anglian Air Ambulance. The presentation, made by WBro. Mike Spencer and WBro. David Bays, took place at the town's Masonic centre on 15<sup>th</sup> November.

Accepting the cheque was Christopher Donaldson, fundraising manager for the EAAA, who said: "These valuable funds will go straight to our crews, who will use them to save more lives throughout the region."



Commenting on the donation, WBro. Bays said: "Wisbech Freemasons were pleased to be able to support such a worthwhile cause, which provides an essential lifesaving service to the community, and is wholly dependent on charitable donations".

WBros. Spencer and Bays were representing Lodge of United Good Fellowship No. 809 and Gild of Holy Trinity No. 6125.

*Bob Kidger*

## Appreciation for TLC scheme

Part of WBro. Jim Whitehead's Valentine's Day was spent in A&E at Addenbrooke's Hospital. He wasn't a patient, but visiting the paediatric department to talk to people about the TLC Teddy scheme and how it was proceeding after 14 years.

All the folk he met (apart from the children, who just murmured 'Thank You' and hugged their Teddies) told him with great enthusiasm that the teddies were an enormous help to them and asked him to convey their warm thanks to you all. The senior medic was particularly strong in his approval.



One young doctor to come up and shook Jim's hand and told how much he appreciated the scheme and that he has developed a neat trick when attending a fractious or crying patient. He flips his identity badge round so it hangs behind him and hooks a concealed teddy into it. After introducing the idea of a teddy gift to catch the child's attention, he can show his empty hands, do a magician's waves and produce a teddy from thin air. It silences all but the parents.

The scheme still works and is still invaluable. Cambridgeshire Masons have now provided 25,000 teddies to hospitals at Addenbrooke's, Ely, Doddington and Wisbech since 2003.

*Jim Whitehead*

## Doing the double at March

Double ceremonies have become a regular feature at Stone Cross Lodge No. 6704 based in March, but a recent initiation featured two 21-year-old Scout leaders.



*After the ceremony (from left to right), Bro. Chris Beeken (Senior Deacon), Bro. Paul Dunham (SW), Bro. Clinton Elkin, WBro. Peter Wheeler (WM), Bro. Daniel Courten, Bro. James Rowney (JW) and Bro. Gavin Philpott (JD)*

Although there have been young initiates and double initiations, it was the first time that two 21-year-olds had been initiated on the same evening. The pair, Clinton Elkin and Daniel Courten, were initiated at an Emergency Meeting of the Lodge, held by dispensation in December.

Their proposers and seconders were fellow Scout leaders, Bro. Paul Dunham (Senior Warden) and Bro. Gavin Philpott (Junior Deacon).

*Cliff Brown*

## St Andrew recognises its angels

Being named after a local church and the patron saint of Scotland, it seemed natural for St Andrew Lodge No. 4087 at Whittlesey to hold a Sunday lunch with a Scottish theme.

The meal, which took place on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2016, a few days before St Andrew's Day, followed on from the Lodge's popular St George's Day Sunday lunch, which itself came about some years after the reintroduction of a sausage supper for the Lodge of Instruction.



*Resplendent in their aprons are Tim Smith, his mother-in-law Christine, his wife Jane, Karen Turner and Graham Turner*

It was in 2003 that WBro. Tim Smith and WBro. Graham Turner decided to resume the tradition of the sausage supper and the cooking was supported by their wives, who also act as waitresses. That first attempt proved very successful, and the Lodge has hosted a sausage supper each March for the last 13 years. Each event now raises between £500 and £750.

At the St Andrew's lunch it was decided the wives must be angels for putting up with Tim and Graham, and this was signified by the presentation of special 4087 Angel aprons.

*Tim Smith*

## Wisbech lodge helps night shelter

A night shelter for homeless people in Wisbech has received a £660 boost from local Freemasons.

The Gild of Holy Trinity Lodge No. 6125 made the presentation to the Ferry Project as part of the 2017 Tercentenary celebrations. The cheque was handed over by WBro. Bob Kidger and WBro. Martin Holmes to project director Keith Smith.

The £660 included £250 match funding from the City & University of Cambridge Masonic Charitable Trust.



*Bob Kidger, Keith Smith and Martin Holmes*

"We are pleased to be able to support the work undertaken by the Ferry Project, which provides much-needed support for the homeless in the local community," said Bob.

*Bob Kidger*

## Double Channel attempt raised £8,000

An attempt by a member of Kynaston Lodge No 5810 to swim from Dover to France and back had to be aborted after he completed the first leg, but he still raised £8,000 for charity.

Bro. John Creek set off from Samphire Hoe, near Dover, in an attempt to swim to France and then back. Conforming to the Channel Swimming and Piloting Federation rules, John wore a pair of knee-length swimming trunks, a swimming hat, goggles and suntan lotion.

John, who is head of security for Sheikh Mohammed Al Maktoum's Godolphin Racing and Breeding operation in Newmarket, battled with a fierce spring tide on 24<sup>th</sup> August and actually swam for 42 miles as the currents pushed him left and right during what is only a 21-mile stretch of water.



Towards the end, he was only travelling forward by one knot as the tide pushed him three knots up the coast. After putting in extra effort to land on the first leg, John landed 500 yards south of Sangatte. After 17 hours and 39 minutes of swimming, John realised that the return leg was out of the question, and accepted the achievement of a successful solo swim of the English Channel.

John covered the cost of 18 months of training and the support boat that accompanied him on the attempt, which enabled every penny of the £8,000 raised to go directly to the Build Charity in Norfolk, which organises events for adults with disabilities.

"I'm glad that others will benefit from this attempt as I have no intention of trying it again," said John.

*Cliff Brown*

## Talking Heads staged in Cambridge



A presentation adapted from the work developed by the Metropolitan Grand Chapter to raise awareness of the Royal Arch to members of the Craft has been staged in Cambridge.

Aimed at those who have yet to join the Royal Arch and those Companions interested in a deeper understanding of it, the presentation is set in the changing room prior to the commencement of a lodge meeting. It takes the form of a dialogue between an experienced Past Master and a relatively new Master Mason as they arrive to get ready for a lodge meeting. The scene is set by a narrator, who interjects at various points in the dialogue to add supporting information at the appropriate point.

The event, called 'Talking Heads - the next step into the Royal Arch', took place on 30<sup>th</sup> November at Cambridge and was performed by the Metropolitan Grand Lodge Demonstration Team and organised by WBro. Jon West, Provincial Grand Mentor.

The presentation reveals how the present Royal Arch came into being as a result of the union of the two Grand Lodges in the 1800s. Further questions reveal the relevance of the Royal Arch to the Craft and elicited information regarding the background to the ritual and what was expected of a Royal Arch companion in terms of commitment, time and cost of membership. It concluded with the distribution of a leaflet entitled 'The Next Step in Freemasonry' and a mention of the Province's Royal Arch contacts.

The demonstration was extremely well attended, including five visitors from Metropolitan Grand Lodge. Those attending ranged from the Deputy ProvGM, VWBro. John Sheriff, and Deputy Grand Superintendent, EComp. Russell Jackson, to Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts, along with five members of the Provincial Executive and Lodge Royal Arch Liaison officers.

After the demonstration the Provincial Grand Scribe E, EComp Edmund Brookes was presented with a copy of the script, so that, if it was wished, the Province could put on its own demonstration in the future.

*Jon West*

## Caldwell donates £500 to Tuesday Club

A club for older people with learning disabilities has received £500 from Caldwell Lodge No 3201 at March.

The club, officially opened in 1991 by Mrs Norma Major (wife of the former Prime Minister, John Major), meets every week at March Town Cricket Club, with those attending coming from March and the surrounding villages. The venue is a safe and appropriate environment for those attending to play games, enjoy conversation and have lunch out. All day centres, like the Tuesday Club, provide stimulating day care for elderly people.

The cheque was presented on 24<sup>th</sup> January to club organiser Angela Sawyer by lodge charity steward, WBro. Brian Sutton. The club hopes to use the funds to organise a summer coach trip with a fish and chip lunch.

*Les Mills*



*Brian Sutton,, Cheryl Payne (assistant organiser), Angela Sawyer (organiser) and Les Mills (Caldwell Lodge member & March Town Cricket Club chairman).*

## An insight into the Royal Arch

Companions, their partners, Craft brethren and guests were treated to an insight into the Holy Royal Arch at a white table event staged by Cambridgeshire Meridian Chapter No. 8374.



At the chapter's convocation on 9<sup>th</sup> February held at Newmarket, the Province's former Deputy Grand Superintendent, EComp. Jim Whitehead captivated the audience with his interesting and entertaining explanation of Royal Arch Masonry. Even the Companions present gained new knowledge of the degree.

*David Kirkham*

## March hosts Rose Croix church service

March played host to the annual service of thanksgiving held for Rose Croix members from throughout East Anglia.

The event on 20<sup>th</sup> November, organised by the District of Cambridge and Isle of Ely, is held annually in either the local District or in those of Norfolk or Suffolk. It took place at St Peter's Church, March, and was conducted by the Rev Andrew Smith, assisted by David Harrison, a reader in the March Team Ministry and a former Craft Provincial Grand Chaplain for Cambridgeshire.

After the welcome by Very Illustrious Brother Dr Nigel Williams, Inspector General for the District of Cambridge and Isle of Ely, there were hymns and readings. Giving the readings were Illustrious Bro. Nigel Philpott, of the March-based Hereward Chapter No. 660, Illustrious Bro. William Dastur, Craft Provincial Grand Master, and Dr Williams.

There were approximately 100 members of the Rose Croix in attendance. A collection was shared equally between St Peter's Church and the East Anglian Air Ambulance. The service was followed by a light tea served at the March Masonic Hall, which is located close to the church.

*Cliff Brown*

## Annual visit to Supreme Grand Chapter

Some 60 companions from the Province took part in the annual visit to the convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at Freemasons' Hall, London.

To the surprise of the Cambridgeshire companions present, the Pro 1<sup>st</sup> Grand Principal, EComp. Peter Lowndes announced to the whole convocation that our Grand Superintendent, EComp. William Dastur had brought 60 members to the meeting. He then gently berated other Grand Superintendents present (and there were quite a few) for not telling him of the representation from their respective provinces.

In his address, the Pro 1<sup>st</sup> Grand Principal reminded companions of the work of the Implementation Delivery Group, which was taking forward the results of the Membership Focus Group. Cambridgeshire masons will recall that many, inspired by our Past Grand Superintendent EComp. Rodney Wolverson, contributed to that group's work.

While the actual meeting was quite short, there followed an enthralling presentation by the Royal College of Surgeons on the way it uses the income from the Freemasons Fund to sponsor research fellowships. Three doctors briefed the meeting on their fascinating research. Two of the presenters did their training at Addenbrooke's Hospital, which was another feather in the cap of Cambridgeshire.

After the meeting the companions retired to Parkers Restaurant, where they enjoyed a meal, organised by Comp. Richard Kemp, before returning home.

In his reply to his toast, the Grand Superintendent updated those present on current projects, including the 'Talking Heads' presentation on 30<sup>th</sup> November (see page 11) and the Ceremony of the Veils at Cambridgeshire First Principals Chapter in March 2017.

*Edmund Brookes*



## EDITORIAL BOARD

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