

The CAMBRIDGESHIRE MASON



Cambridgeshire Masons



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Brethren and Companions honoured with Grand Rank

Spring 2018 Issue 16

Five Cambridgeshire brethren have been honoured with first appointments to Grand Rank in the Craft, along with four promotions and a reappointment.

WBro. Casper Lawson, of Isaac Newton University Lodge No.859, will be appointed Assistant Grand Registrar. WBro. Dan Heath, of Granta Lodge No. 6179, will be invested as Assistant Grand Standard Bearer, while WBro. Barry Young, of St Wendred Lodge No. 8374, will be Past Grand Standard Bearer.



WBro. Gordon Easton, WBro. Stuart Lingard, WBro. David Coupland, WBro. Russell Jackson, WBro. Richard George (see page 12) and WBro. Bob Wordsworth

Both WBro. Michael Fox, of St Ovin Lodge No. 7774 and our Provincial Grand Mentor, WBro. Jonathan West, of Lodge of Three Grand Principles No. 441, will be appointed Past Assistant Grand Standard Bearer. There are promotions too for WBro. Sir Andrew Palmley JGD, of Alma Mater Lodge No, 1492 and recently Lord Mayor of London, who will be invested as Junior Grand Warden, while WBro. Dr David Staples DepGDC, of Stone Cross Lodge No. 6704, will become Grand Secretary.

WBro. Russell Jackson PAGDC, of St Andrew Lodge No. 4087, who had been Deputy Grand Superintendent in the Royal Arch in Cambridgeshire, will be Junior Grand Deacon, while WBro. Alistair Townsend PDepGDC, of INUL No. 859, will be promoted to Past Grand Sword Bearer.

Reappointed to Deputy Grand Master is RWBro. Jonathan Spence, of Alma Mater Lodge No. 1492.

Meanwhile, in the Royal Arch, EComp. Tony Just, our Deputy Grand Superintendent, is appointed as Past Grand Sword Bearer, while EComp. Stuart Lingard Past 3rdProvGP, of Chapter of Fidelity No. 441, will be honoured with the rank of Past Grand Standard Bearer. EComp. Keith Huddleston PGStdB, of Cambridgeshire First Principals Chapter No. 7429 is promoted to Past Assistant Grand Sojourner.

Cliff Brown

Provincial appointments

Having already announced that WBro. Pat Kilby, of Gild of St Mary Lodge No. 7288, will be the new Deputy Provincial Grand Master, the Provincial Grand Master, RWBro. William Dastur has revealed the roll of Provincial officers to be appointed in June. Taking on the role of Provincial Senior Grand Warden will be WBro. Gordon Easton, of Fenland Farmers' Lodge No. 9933, while the Junior Grand Warden will be WBro. Bob Wordsworth, of Kynaston Lodge No. 5810.

Promoted from Provincial Assistant Grand Secretary to Provincial Grand Registrar is WBro. Dr John Jones, of Nourse Lodge No. 8590, while WBro. Michael Harding, of St Ovin Lodge No. 7774 will be invested as Provincial Grand Sword Bearer.

In the Royal Arch, the new 2nd Provincial Grand Principal will be EComp. David Blair, of Euclid Chapter No. 859, who is also Provincial Grand Treasurer in the Craft. EComp. Brian Elliott, of Kynaston Chapter No. 5810, remains as 3rd Provincial Grand Principal.

Promoted to Provincial Grand Treasurer in the Royal Arch is EComp. Ray Page, of Etheldreda Chapter No. 809, while EComp Jonathan West, of Fidelity Chapter No. 441, is promoted to Provincial Grand Registrar, and EComp. David Coupland, of Etheldreda Chapter No. 809, steps up to Provincial Grand Sword Bearer.

Full lists of all Provincial appointments and promotions have been circulated to lodge and chapters.

Festival 2023 launch



The Province of Cambridgeshire kicked off its Festival 2023 in aid of the Masonic Charitable Foundation when the Provincial Grand Master, RWBro. William Dastur launched the five-year fundraising campaign on 14th March.

Full details of the Festival were given at the annual Provincial luncheon held on 14th March in the Edinburgh Suite of the Grand Connaught Rooms at Great Queen Street, London. Find out more on pages 4 and 5.

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Message from the Provincial Grand Master



We are entering a new era! At Grand Lodge on 14th March, we launched the 2023 Festival in support of the Masonic Charitable Foundation with a target of £900,000. We have five very busy but exciting years ahead of us whilst we raise funds for such a great cause. What is equally important though, is that we enjoy ourselves whilst involving our families, friends and the local communities.

What a great last few months we have had brethren. Before Christmas we had the last of our Tercentenary events at Churchill where nearly three hundred dined and, apart from the odd hiccup, we generally had a very good evening. I was then thrilled to learn that your magnificent support had resulted in us going through our six-figure target for the Building Fund endowment appeal and we are now close to £120,000. A fantastic effort and I am so grateful but also humbled by your generosity. This will stand our successors in good stead and ensure our masonic buildings can be maintained to a high standard.

In February, RWBro. Colin Hutchinson died and we shall miss him greatly. He served this Province so well and there are so many of us who owe him so much. There is a fitting tribute on page 3 and there will be many eulogies in your lodges and chapters. The Province will be In Mourning until 18th May 2018.

You will also read about the new Grand Lodge and Supreme Grand Chapter appointments and this has been a good year for Cambridgeshire. There are also the key appointments in Provincial Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Chapter, particularly the new Wardens and the next Second Grand Principal. Many congratulations to them all on their new ranks.

We learnt at Christmas that VWBro. John Sherriff was retiring as Deputy Provincial Grand Master and that WBro. Pat Kilby would replace him, while WBro. Kevin Mader will become Provincial Grand Secretary. John has served the Province loyally both as Provincial Secretary and as Deputy ProvGM and we shall miss him. While he may be retiring in June, I hope we shall be able to rely on his assistance and advice for many years.

Many congratulations to Pat and Kevin, who will be invested in June at Provincial Grand Lodge which follows the Provincial Grand Chapter meeting, where we shall be honoured by the presence of the Third Grand Principal, Most Excellent Companion Gareth Jones.

I hope you will enjoy this edition of The Cambridgeshire Mason. It is enlightening to see so many interesting photographs and articles on the activities in the Province over the last few months.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our annual Provincial meetings on 20th June as well as at various lodge and chapter meetings beforehand. This Province is in such great heart and I urge you all to have fun as we start on our Festival journey.

William Dastur

Seeing work of Air Ambulance at first hand

Representatives of Province's oldest lodge, Scientific No.88, handed over a cheque for £1,350 to the East Anglian Air Ambulance on 6th February. WBro. Graham Jackson, Worshipful Master, and WBro. Neil Taylor ProvAGDC were greeted by Fern Clark, the EAAA's community fundraiser, and Lisa Liszewski, clinical liaison officer, at their Cambridge base.



On behalf of the Lodge, Graham and Neil presented a cheque for £1,350 to Fern, Liza, and Captain Frank Slatter. Almost immediately after they had taken the pictures of the presentation, a call came in and the pilots were on board with engines started within a minute and airborne with a full crew within four minutes.

"We could not have planned it better," said Graham. "We were informed that on average the East Anglian Air Ambulance has six or seven callouts a day at an average cost of £3,500 per mission. We were sincerely thanked by the staff for our generous cheque, albeit only a small contribution in the scale of operational costs, but they asked for their thanks to be passed on to all of the members of the Lodge."

Fern Clark added: "It was a pleasure to have Graham and Neil representing Scientific Lodge No. 88 for a visit and we are incredibly grateful for their support. Without support like this, we would not be able to keep our helicopters in the sky and saving lives, so thank you on behalf of everyone at EAAA."

Graham Jackson

New Deputy Provincial Grand Master



The Province will have a new Deputy Provincial Grand Master with effect from its annual meeting in June. It follows the announcement by VWBro. John Sherriff that he will retire in June after more than two and half years of sterling service in that role, and before that as Provincial Grand Secretary.



"The whole Province is hugely grateful to him," said the Provincial Grand Master, RWBro. William Dastur, on announcing the news in December 2017.



WBro. Pat Kilby, the Provincial Grand Secretary, has accepted the ProvGM's invitation to succeed VWBro. Sherriff. In January, it was announced that WBro. Kevin Mader, secretary of Gild of St Mary Lodge No. 7288 and Cambridgeshire Installed Masters Lodge No. 7429, will be invested as Provincial Grand Secretary at the Provincial meeting in June.

Cliff Brown

RWBro. Colin Herbert Hutchinson, Past Provincial Grand Master

Our Past Provincial Grand Master, RWBro. Colin Herbert Hutchinson died on the 16th February 2018, aged 87. Sadly, in recent years he had not been well but was always willing to receive visitors and learn about what was going on in his business, his lodge or the Province and masonry generally. He was always keen to give his view on the latest masonic developments or issues.

Losing him, though not unexpected, still comes as a shock to the brethren of the Province of Cambridgeshire, especially to those of us who knew him well.

Colin was born on 4th December 1930 to Herbert and Elsie Hutchinson in Wisbech, a town where he spent almost all his life. He was educated at Wisbech Grammar School, and then read horticulture at Sutton Bonnington, now Nottingham University, graduating with a BSc.

After spending time in the Canal Zone on National Service, Colin returned to Wisbech to join his father in his horticultural business, eventually succeeding him as managing director and then chairman. The business now employs nearly 400 staff with sales of over £200million and Colin was the major driver in its growth until he retired and handed over to his two sons, David and Michael – except that he never really retired, and continued to take a keen interest in the business, still going into the office while his health allowed. He remained a director until his death.

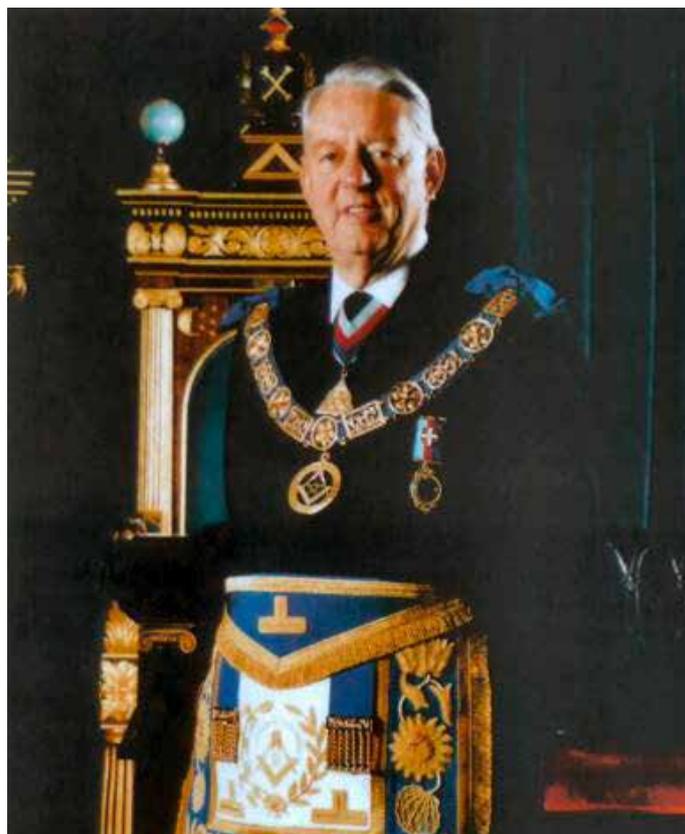
He married Jean in 1956 and they celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary in 2016. Jean also worked in the family business, retiring as company secretary in 1991. She was a huge support to him and they were devoted to each other. They had two children, David and Michael, and five grandchildren. Colin would talk with great pride of his family and he readily had a story at hand about each one, if you were studying one of the many photographs in his home.

His business career was an undoubted success, but he was particularly proud of the company receiving and holding the Royal Warrant for supplying the Royal family and the Sandringham Estate, and he was honoured to be president of the Sandringham Royal Warrant Holders Association.

But it was not just as businessman that we remember his successes. He was our Provincial Grand Master and Grand Superintendent from 1994 until 2005. A Lewis, he was initiated into Masonry in 1956 into the Lodge of United Good Fellowship No. 809 at Wisbech and raised in 1957, at which ceremony WBro. Charles Overland's father presented the Traditional History. Both Colin's father and father-in-law were in the lodge, the latter as secretary. His first office was as a steward in 1966. He was a very active mason, becoming Master of his lodge in 1975. He later served the lodge as ADC. In 1983, Colin received his first Provincial active appointment as Provincial Grand Registrar.

He received Grand Rank as PAGDC in 1987 and was an active Senior Grand Deacon in UGLE in 1990. In June 1989, he was appointed Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, but this was only for three months as, in September 1989, he was appointed and installed as Deputy Provincial Grand Master by RWBro. Canon Hugh Barker, an office he held until 1994 when, he was installed as Provincial Grand Master.

He was the natural choice for leadership, serving a very successful period in office, steering the Province from strength to strength, and presiding over the Province's first Festival.



This was for the Masonic Trust for Girls and Boys, which raised the magnificent sum of £984,000 and established Cambridgeshire as a Province that punches well above its weight in charitable giving.

Colin consecrated two new lodges in the Province and truly loved his masonry with a superb record of 61 years' service in the Craft and 45 years in the Royal Arch. In the Royal Arch, Colin was exalted into Etheldreda Royal Arch Chapter No. 809 on 11th October 1972 and served as Zerubbabel in 1981.

He then took office as Scribe Ezra and was awarded his first Provincial Grand Chapter appointment in 1984, as an active DepGDC. He received Grand Rank as PGStB in 1990. From 1992 to 1994 he was the 2nd Provincial Grand Principal, before becoming Grand Superintendent in 1994.

Colin was a subscribing member of five lodges and four Royal Arch chapters in the Province and an honorary member of 24 lodges and was WM of Cambridgeshire Installed Masters Lodge No. 7429 in 1991 and Z of Cambridgeshire First Principals Chapter No. 7429 in 1995.

He was also a Mark Master Mason, serving as Master of The Guild of Good Fellowship No. 1410 in 1986, receiving Provincial honours shortly afterwards with Grand Rank following in 1997. Colin was also a member of the Rose Croix serving as Sovereign of Wysbech Trinity Chapter No.82 in 1999.

He was always a gentleman with an air of authority combined with a deep concern and time for the individual mason, and his extensive visiting endeared him to brethren across the Province. He will be greatly missed and remembered by everyone who encountered him during his time as Provincial Grand Master.

His funeral will be a private family affair, but there will be a Service of Thanksgiving for his life on Tuesday 10th April 2018 at St Peter's, Wisbech at 2pm.

William Dastur

Provincial Grand Master sets five-year challenge

It's official – the Province's Festival 2023 has started in support of the Masonic Charitable Foundation (MCF) and the target is to raise at least £900,000 over its five years.

Launching the Festival 2023 at the lunch after the Provincial visit to the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge on 14th March, the Provincial Grand Master, RWBro. William Dastur, highlighted the "fantastic level of support" from the MCF for good causes in Cambridgeshire, along with helping Masons and their relatives.



The visit to Grand Lodge in London, followed by the festival launch in the Grand Connaught Rooms, was supported by 120 brethren from the Province, who heard the ProvGM declare that "the MCF deserves our support" and that he was "happy for this Province to show what it can do".

Revealing the £900,000 target, RWBro. Dastur said it represented approximately £600 for each member of the Province. Individual donations would be recognised by the award of a Festival Steward's Jewel. Qualification for a Festival Steward's jewel would require a commitment to donate £400 over the five years of the festival, which would require a regular payment promise of £80 a year. Once a regular payment commitment had been made, brethren would receive their Festival Steward's jewel and could wear it immediately.

There will be a series of honorifics for lodges to acknowledge their financial achievements towards the festival. Certificates will be awarded for the following levels of average donation per member – bronze £300, silver £450, gold £600 and platinum £750+.

Individual Honorifics

The Province wishes to acknowledge the generosity of its Brethren by issuing Festival jewels to all qualifying Brethren. The Province fully understands that it may not be within every Brother's means to qualify for the various honorifics but greatly appreciates all donations made.



Lodge Honorifics

A series of honorifics have been set to acknowledge and celebrate individual Lodge financial achievements, based on average donations* per member of the Lodge. Certificates will be awarded to Lodges at the following levels of donations:



The ProvGM then kicked off the festival in style by presenting a first donation from the Province of £100,000 to the MCF's deputy president, James Newman, who, after declaring "£100,000 to start the festival is a fantastic proportion of your total", and "demonstrated that Freemasonry is a force for good".

Concluding the launch, the Provincial Grand Charity Steward, WBro. Paul Gillingwater presented the first Festival 2023 Steward's Jewel to the Provincial Grand Master.

Nearly two months earlier, almost 100 members of the Province attended an information evening held on 29th January at Bateman Street, Cambridge. At this pre-launch event, organised by the Cambridgeshire Masonic Benevolent Association (CMBA), brethren were welcomed by the Provincial Grand Master and then given an outline of Festival, which will run from 2018 to 2023, by WBro. Gillingwater.

The Masonic Charitable Foundation was represented by Les Hutchinson, chief operating officer, and Howard Wilson, chairman and trustee of the MCF committee. They explained the valuable work done by the MCF and how important festivals were to its fundraising activities.



The ProvGM will be the president of Festival 2023, with his Deputy as vice-president. WBro. Gillingwater will be chairman, with the Cambridgeshire Masonic Benevolent Association having overall charge of collection of money raised by Brethren. Festival secretary will be WBro. David Cameron, who is secretary of the CMBA, with WBro. Mark Shields as festival co-ordinator.

"We must engage with family, friends and the local community," said the ProvGM, who added: "If we are not having fun it becomes tedious and laborious."

RWBro. Dastur also urged everyone to ensure donations were responsible giving and that Brethren should not be pushed beyond their means. He made particular emphasis on gift aid, regular payments and one-off donations, which could all be organised through local charity stewards.



"Most of us can afford to donate the price of a pint of beer a week to charity" said the ProvGM, who urged lodges to plan ahead for fundraising activities with the lodge charity steward and perhaps a designated festival steward ensuring regular reports and updates at committee meetings.

During the festival period, it was hoped that each lodge's Master's List payments to the CMBA will be directed to the festival, although this should not prevent lodges making local donations to other good causes.

Cliff Brown

The Provincial Grand Master says....

This will be the third Festival that Cambridgeshire has held, but the first for the Masonic Charitable Foundation (MCF). The MCF has merged the four principal masonic charities under one umbrella and in doing so brought greater efficiency, purpose and direction to our charitable giving. It also needs and deserves all our support, so I am pleased that Cambridgeshire will be in the vanguard of those Provinces chosen to run a festival for MCF.



There can be few of us who do not know of a Brother or a family member who has benefited from masonic charity, whether it be at one of the masonic homes, receiving respite care, through medical support, education of those who have lost one or both parents or just general financial support when times have got tough. All hugely deserving causes and indeed, in 2017 alone, Cambridgeshire masons or their dependants have been fortunate enough to have received some £80,000 from the MCF.

It is not, however, just masonic beneficiaries and I am sure we all recall the four Tercentenary awards that Cambridgeshire charities received. There are also ongoing grants to disaster appeals, hospitals, hospices, air ambulances, medical research and many other local charities that benefit annually from MCF grants and awards.

We have a duty and a challenge to do our utmost over the next five years to raise as much as we can, so that, in autumn 2023 at the Festival Banquet, we can look back with pride and confirm that Cambridgeshire has again exceeded expectations.

I hope that all of us, together with our families and friends, will embrace the opportunity to come up with innovative and imaginative new ways of raising funds while also ensuring that every activity is enjoyable. This should be a great way of having fun and working together, whether it be at a lodge meeting, social event or in some new personal challenge. If we can involve the local community, and continue to explain why masonry is such a force for good in so many ways, so much the better.

I am very grateful to the heads of the three very important orders on who have been so positive and lent their support to this launch. Enjoying our masonry and having fun is fundamental if we are to be successful. I know that we are going to have a fantastic five years as we practise that quality which we have all professed to admire. May I thank you in advance for all that you are going to do for this magnificent charity.

William Dastur

The Foundation supported **18** FREEMASONS & THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS in 2017, at a cost of **£75,134**

Over the last **5 YEARS** support amounted to **£481,400**

GRANTS AWARDED to local charities in Cambridgeshire from 2015-2017, totalled **£220,000**

Last Cambridgeshire Festival Appeal **RAISED £1,283,592** for **THE FREEMASONS' GRAND CHARITY**

Other orders offer their support



"I appreciate the opportunity to work in partnership with the Province as they launch their 2023 festival for the Masonic Charitable Foundation. Mark Masons are ready and willing to support this festival and will I am sure offer every assistance in ensuring a successful outcome to the appeal."

RWBro. Paul Norman, Provincial Grand Master for Mark Master Masons of East Anglia



I offer my wholehearted support to the 2023 Festival. Although our Order does not have a national Charitable fund, I am aware that all the Chapters in this District offer superb support to charities. Our Order would not exist were it not for the Craft; so we should be forever mindful of that strong connection. I would request that all the Chapters in this District consider giving similar strong support to the Festival.

Dr Nigel Williams, Inspector General, Ancient and Accepted Rite, District of Cambridge & Isle of Ely



I am thrilled to be able to give our support to the Craft Province of Cambridgeshire, in their support of the Masonic Charitable Foundation, and I am confident we all give our support, both as individuals and collectively to this worthy charity.

RE Knight Stewart C.L. Middleton, Provincial Prior, Knights Templar Province of East Anglia.

Off to a flying start



Within only 24 hours of the launch of Festival 2023, the Province had issued 76 Festival Stewards Jewels. They were issued in return for members donating or committing to donate the minimum amount of £400 over the five-year period to qualify them as a Festival Steward.

By the time you read this, each and every member of your Lodge will receive a personal letter from the Provincial Grand Master, together with a copy of the launch brochure.

Paul Gillingwater

Birthday treat for Past Master

A Mason who has served as Worshipful Master of two Cambridgeshire Lodges has celebrated his 90th birthday with a ride in a motorcycle sidecar. WBro. W.H. 'Bill' Tripp was treated to the motorcycle experience before a family celebration at his son's house last May. His wife Rosa celebrated her 90th birthday in September with a family event at Westminster College. Bill was WM of Gild of St Mary Lodge No. 7288 in 1987 and Cambridgeshire Meridian Lodge No. 9687 in 2010.

Jim Haggerty



Gild support for MIND

Having undertaken a number of fundraising events during his year as Master of the Gild of St. Mary Lodge No. 7288, WBro. Alan Brown was able to present a cheque for £2,500 to the local office of the mental health charity, MIND.

Events included a successful concert by the City of Ely Military Band, held in the Bishop's Garden, Ely, and a wine tasting evening held in September at Bateman Street, Cambridge.



The cheque presentation (from left to right): Zoe Doherty (fundraiser for MIND) with Julie and Alan Brown

WBro. Brown commented: "We are delighted to present this cheque to MIND. Mental health is such an important issue. With one in four people at any one time during the year having a mental health condition, the work they do is so important and we hope this donation will help many local people get the support they need."

Zoe Doherty, fundraiser for Mind and who received the cheque on their behalf, said: "We are so pleased to receive this very generous donation from the Gild of St Mary Lodge. Last year we supported 2,550 local people in their recovery journey and with demand for our services increasing every year, such support means a great deal to us".

Kevin Mader

Mark Benevolent Fund helps blood bikes

An impressive contingent of East Anglian Mark Masons, together with their wives and partners, gathered at Great Yarmouth to see their Provincial Grand Master RWBro. Paul Norman hand over the keys of a new Ford Focus Estate car, named 'Mark Mason' to SERV Norfolk Blood Bikes.

Supplied as the result of a generous grant of just under £17,000 from the Mark Benevolent Fund, the car will be used to transport essential medical supplies such as blood, plasma, vaccines and breast milk for premature babies across Norfolk. While most of their work is carried out on motorbikes, in low temperatures cars must be used and this new vehicle replaces an older less reliable one, plus volunteers regularly have to use their own vehicles.



The keys were presented to WBro. Colin Farrington, chairman and operations manager of SERV Norfolk. Colin is a well-known Mark Mason, and other members are part of the volunteer SERV Norfolk team. It was both wonderful and humbling to see the hard-earned donations of all our brethren being turned into something that will have such a positive impact on so many lives.

The MBF was represented by trustee RWBro. Peter Rollin, who said: "We thought this was particularly worthwhile scheme to support and it was a good idea to get them a new car for East Anglia."

Richard Pryor

They're all brothers now

When Brodie Ellis was initiated on 15th December, he joined his brother, father and grandfather as a member of into Fenland Farmers' Lodge No. 9933.



WBro. Matthew Ellis, Bro. Brodie Ellis, Bro. Jake Ellis and WBro. Danny Ellis

At the meeting held at Whittlesey, the new Brother Ellis, a student at Sheffield Hallam University and well-known cricketer for Wisbech Town CC, was initiated by his father, WBro. Matthew Ellis, a member of Fenland Farmers' Lodge and currently Worshipful Master of St Andrew Lodge No. 4087, also at Whittlesey.

Among those witnessing Brodie's initiation were his grandfather WBro. Kenneth 'Danny' Ellis, the lodge secretary, and his brother, Jake, who is a steward of the lodge.

Cliff Brown

Gordon's Fenland boyhood

The depths of a bleak Fenland winter saw 70 members and guests of Nourse Lodge No. 8590 gather in the warm and welcoming Masonic Centre in Ely, in full rural attire for an excellent after-lunch talk by the inimitable WBro. Gordon Easton.



Gordon, IPM of Fenland Farmers' Lodge No. 9933, spoke on the theme of "My Fenland Boyhood" and kept his audience enthralled for 45 minutes with tales of the Fenland characters of his childhood, his family life and boyhood escapades. He illustrated his wonderful talk with many objects produced from an ancient suitcase, including the special belt he designed for the members of the gang he formed when he decided Boy Scouts were not adventurous enough.

Guests were greeted with a glass of sloe gin made from Cambridgeshire sloes, picked by Joanne Montessa and Phillippa Dawkins on their own land. Jackie and Sandra Richardson, of Richardson Catering, provided a sumptuous lunch of homemade Fenland vegetable soup, beef stew with dumplings and plum duff and custard followed by a cheese board. All agreed that the fare was first class.

Guests had the opportunity to partake of a game of 'root vegetable bingo' and win various vegetable boxes of black soil produce, and the more comprehensible 'guess the witch game' as well as a game of heads and tails and a rural raffle. Jo Fuller and Amber Heron co-ordinated the games and sold raffle tickets, and made and donated the Fenland petits-fours.

The creditable sum of £492 was raised with a further £150 surplus from ticket sales resulting in £642, which will be donated to the Three Pillars Feeding the Homeless project. The donation was part of the Nourse Lodge programme of fundraising to support the hard work of this charity in Peterborough with a possible extension of operations into Wisbech and March or Cambridge.

The event was hosted by WBro. Stephen Teverson, WM of Nourse Lodge, and lodge members. Given that time proved a constraint and that Gordon was an excellent and eloquent speaker, a second part to the talk may well be forthcoming. Cambridgeshire Masons are invited to keep an eye out for 'My Fenland Teenage Years'.

Stephen Teverson

Help for care centre

A specialist palliative care centre providing a range of free out-patient support services has received £600 from Wisbech's Gild of Holy Trinity Lodge No. 6125.

The Alan Hudson Day Treatment Centre helps people with a life-limiting condition, and their carers, in Wisbech and Fenland. Since opening in 1998, the Centre has supported many people who have appreciated the ability to have their treatment in a friendly environment close to home.

With demand for its services increasing and the needs of patients becoming more complex, the centre needs to expand and redevelop its premises and extend its services. In 2017, the centre created a two-year plan to build capacity by increasing the number of specialist palliative care nurses and support provided by volunteers, acquire additional space on the North Cambs Hospital site and redevelop it to be fit for purpose, and raise additional funds to achieve the objectives.



Phillippa Ashcroft receives the cheque from WBro. Martin Holmes.

"We have raised 78 per cent of the funds needed for the redevelopment works, thanks to the generous support of local trusts," said Phillippa Ashcroft, project development officer. "The Masons' donation therefore has come at an important time and we are very grateful indeed for your support."

The cheque for £600, presented by lodge charity steward, WBro. Martin Holmes, on 27th November, included a £250 match funding donation from the City & University of Cambridge Masonic Charitable Trust.

Bob Kidger

Busy year for Newmarket master

During the last year, the Worshipful Master of Etheldreda Lodge No. 2107, WBro. Alan de Laune, has raised another £1000 for his chosen charity, Little Miracles in Newmarket.

Just before finishing his year as Master on the 15th February, Alan presented a cheque for £1,000 to a representative of Little Miracles at the Masonic Hall in Newmarket. The money was raised by members of Etheldreda Lodge over the past 12 months. This was in addition to the £3,000 Alan raised last July by being sponsored to complete a wing walk.

He was also a member of the cast in the Province's pantomime, Captain Hook's Revenge, staged at the end of January. The money raised by the pantomime supported three charities equally, and, as a result, Little Miracles received a further £775, making donations just short of £5,000 for the past year.



In a year when Freemasonry has been in the national press, Freemasons from Newmarket have not only supported national charities but also have been very pleased to raise money for their local charity Little Miracles, which provides much-needed support for families of children with additional needs.

Jim Stokes

Award for Ely mason

The 50 years of membership of the Craft by WBro. Roy Peacock PPJGW was celebrated on 9th January at a meeting of St Audrey Lodge No. 2727.

Roy was Worshipful Master of St Audrey Lodge in 1980, and served as First Principal of Caldwell Royal Arch Chapter No. 2727 in 1986 and 1987. He was appointed Past Provincial Junior Grand Warden in 1999 and received the Provincial Grand Master's Certificate of Service to Masonry in 2014.



(l) The ProvGM, WBro. Peacock and WBro. David Lane, the WM of St Audrey Lodge. (r) Lodge Treasurer, WBro. W. Harrison, presenting WBro. Peacock (pictured with his wife Madge) with the plaque to be placed in the dining room.

As part of Roy's celebrations, a lunch, attended by 84 family and friends, was held at the Silver Street premises on 4th March. Roy's involvement with the purchase and development of the Masonic Hall over the past 25 years was commemorated with the presentation of a plaque acknowledging his immense contribution both as a director and as chairman of Ely Masonic Hall Ltd.

Mark Shields

50 years in the Craft

A Newmarket Mason who has just celebrated 50 years of being a Mason was honoured by the Provincial Grand Master and also by the Brother who initiated him.

On the 15th February at the Masonic Hall, Newmarket, a 50-year certificate was presented to WBro. Chris Hurrell PPJGW by the ProvGM, RWBro. William Dastur, at the Installation meeting of Etheldreda Lodge No. 2107.



ProvGM with Keith Pratt, Chris Hurrell and the new WM, WBro. Tony Lamkin.

WBro. Hurrell's Masonic career included 25 years as the lodge's almoner (1985 – 2010) and he was also a founding member of St Etheldreda Chapter No. 2107 in 1979. He was Master of the lodge in 1979. The ProvGM invited WBro. Keith Pratt to present WBro. Hurrell with a 50-year lapel badge, probably a unique occasion because it was WBro. Pratt who initiated him all those years ago.

WBro. Hurrell thanked the ProvGM, commenting that one of his enjoyable tasks was being one of the brethren asked to set up the Masonic home, Cornwallis Court.

Jim Stokes

Fifty years for March stalwart

Exactly 50 years after his initiation in 1968, WBro. Len Bradbury's half century of membership was marked at Stone Cross Lodge No. 6704 on 26th January.



WBro. Len Bradbury, right, with WBro. Paul Dunham, the WM of Stone Cross Lodge

Len, who was Worshipful Master of Stone Cross in 1976 and has been in the chair of Cambridgeshire Installed Masters Lodge No. 7429, was active Provincial Senior Grand Warden in 1993. A former schoolteacher in March, Len served as the Lodge's DC from 1983 to 2003 and again in 2006. His long and outstanding service to the Lodge and

Province was recognised when he was awarded the ProvGM's Cert of Service to Masonry in 2015.

In the Royal Arch, Len served as First Principal in St Wendreda Chapter No. 3201 in 1985 and 1996. He was promoted to Grand Rank in chapter in 2003, being appointed Past Grand Standard Bearer and promoted to Past Assistant Grand Sojourner in 2013. He is one of the Royal Arch Liaison officers for Stone Cross. He is now the second most senior member of his lodge.

Making the presentation to Len was the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, VWBro. John Sherriff, who served as secretary of Cambridgeshire Installed Masters Lodge when Len was its WM. Also present was WBro. David Staples DepGDC, chief executive officer of UGLE, a member of Stone Cross.

Cliff Brown

60 years and still going strong!

Thursday 23rd January 1958 saw the start of a remarkable Masonic career for Roy Abraham when he was Initiated into Kynaston Lodge No. 5810 at the Red Lion Hotel in Cambridge.

On Thursday 25th January 2018, the members of Kynaston Lodge gathered at Freemasons' Hall in Bateman Street, Cambridge, to witness the Past Deputy Provincial Grand Master, VWBro. Tim Pearce Higgins, present a 60 year certificate and lapel pin to Roy.

Roy, who will be 93 in July 2018, became Master of the Lodge in 1969, and was WM of Cambridgeshire Installed Masters Lodge No. 7429 in 1990. He served the Province as ProvGDC in the early 1980s and was honoured with Grand Rank in 1984 as PAGDC and again in 1993 as PJGD.

Roy has also had a glittering career in the Royal Arch, being First Principal of Pythagoras Chapter No. 88 in 1979/80, and



of Cambridgeshire First Principals Chapter No. 7429 in 1996/97. He was appointed ProvGDC in Chapter during the mid 1990s and received the rank of PGStB in Supreme Grand Chapter in 1998.

At the Festive Board, Roy was presented with a 20-year-old bottle of Port and a decorated cake to celebrate what has truly been a remarkable lifetime in Cambridgeshire Freemasonry.

Andrew Fordham

Nourse celebrates 250th meeting

October 2017 marked the 250th meeting of Nourse Lodge No. 8590, which was formed in 1974, and was memorable for a many reasons.

The meeting on 12th October included a Passing ceremony for Bro. Alastair Fish, with the ceremony conducted by a Past Master, WBro. David Smith, who stood in at very late notice, as replacement for founder WBro. John Masters, who sustained an injury a week before the ceremony.

Firstly, the occasion was honoured by the presence of the Provincial Grand Master, RWBro. William Dastur, and Past Provincial Grand Master, RWBro. Rodney Wolverson, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, VWBro. John Sherriff, and other Grand Officers.

In addition, the Lodge welcomed the Worshipful Master and Brethren of its Mother Lodge, Kynaston No. 5810, and three visiting Swedish Freemasons, who provided colour and insight to Freemasonry in other countries and presented the Lodge with the symbolic charitable Lamb of Sweden.



Another highlight was WBro. Dudley Mason's lecture entitled 'Freemasonry during the Holocaust'. He presented the WM with a cup discovered by survivors of the Holocaust and the WM decreed that it should be a permanent fixture at each meeting. The Lodge will present a substantial donation to WBro. Mason's chosen charity.

The Festive Board was a copy of the five-course dinner enjoyed in 1974 at the Lodge's Consecration. The Lodge is named after Dr Henry (Harry) Edward Nourse, who was Provincial Grand Master from 1969 to 1979.

John Butler

Dinner at Churchill College

Culmination of the Province's Tercentenary celebrations of the formation of the first Grand Lodge of England was a dinner at Churchill College, Cambridge.

Held on 8th December, the event was organised to celebrate the fraternity and to show local community leaders all that is good about Freemasonry in general and our Province in particular.

Open to Brethren, their partners, friends and guests of the Province, the event attracted nearly 300 people. A toast to the United Grand Lodge of England and 300 years of Freemasonry was proposed by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, VWBro. John Sherriff, with a reply from the Provincial Grand Master, RWBro. William Dastur.

Writing in his Christmas message to Brethren, the ProvGM described the dinner at Churchill College as a fitting end to our celebrations, adding: "I was particularly pleased that we were able to attract so many members of the local community – the High Sherriff, a Deputy Lord Lieutenant, chief executives from local charities, a mayor and so many others, demonstrating and re-enforcing my belief that this year was all about celebrating our Freemasonry more widely."



Jeremy Sallis (BBC Radio Cambridgeshire), Dr Lynn Morgan (Arthur Rank Hospice), RWBro. William Dastur, Flora Raffei (Cam Sight) and Philip Isaac (Stars Children's Bereavement Support Service)

During the dinner, the ProvGM presented certificates from the Masonic Charitable Foundation to the four local recipients of the 2017 grants – Cam Sight, which received £25,000; Arthur Rank Hospice Charity, £15,000; Maggie's Wallace Centre, £6,000 and STARS (Cambridgeshire Children's Bereavement Support Service) £4,000.

The evening's finale was musical entertainment by ZHL Strings, the famous Covent Garden Buskers.

Cliff Brown

Ely Lodge's trip to Parliament

Blessed with the first sunny day for a long while, the trip to Parliament organised by WBro. David Lane, the Worshipful Master of St Audrey Lodge No. 2727, promised well from the outset. It didn't disappoint either. A full coachload, just under fifty travelled to London from Ely.

It was all so very well arranged that even the coach trip was quick and easy. Dropped off before midday, the visitors had plenty of time for lunch and to gather again for their guided tour. Assembling in Westminster Hall, they moved into the more 'modern' parts of the complex, which date from the 19th century rebuilding after a fire of 1834. They visited St Stephen's Hall, the Queen's Robing Room, both the Commons and Lords Chambers and the famous Lobby.



The tour was a walking history lesson with fascinating facts revealed at every point. All in all, a great day out with friends, and a great credit to WBro. Lane.

Derek Sendrove

Yo Ho Ho and a bottle of rum!

If you recognise the phrase, you'll know that it is one used by pirates and much used in dramatic productions, particularly pantomimes. Did someone mention the word pantomime? Oh yes they did, oh no they didn't!

This year's Provincial pantomime "Captain Hook's Revenge" was held at the end of January, and featured plenty of pirates including a tough Captain Hook. Sixteen Freemasons entertained more than 200 people during three performances in this year's run.

As a result the event raised more than £2,300 to be divided between three local causes - Jimmy's Cambridge, Little Miracles and Camsight. The WM of Scientific Lodge No. 88, WBro. Bob Heavens presented a share of the money raised to Flora Raffai, executive director of Camsight.



They were ably assisted by a recent award-winning make-up artist Hannah Curtis, who donated her time free of charge, as well as WBro. David Adams on the ivories.

An introduction to the Royal Arch



Fenland Meridian Lodge No. 9858 hosted the 'Cambs Heads Talking' presentation team at March Masonic Hall on 5th December. Organised by Provincial Grand Orator, WBro. Harry Rooke, it followed the success of the 'Talking Heads' presentation held at Freemasons' Hall, Cambridge.

The event was organised to introduce Royal Arch Masonry to those yet to join and dispel any myths or preconceptions about the order. It was open to all Masons throughout the Province, especially those who had not been exalted into the Royal Arch. There was a turnout of about 40 Brethren, including members of the Provincial Executive, led by EComp. Tony Just, Deputy Grand Superintendent, and Provincial Grand Scribe Ezra, EComp. Edmund Brookes.

The event took the form of a short introduction by EComp. Just, followed by the short play in which Brethren, both members of the Royal Arch and those interested in joining, gathering before the start of a Lodge meeting and discussing membership of the Royal Arch. It was followed by a question and answer session.

After the presentation, there was a buffet and a chance for prospective members of the Royal Arch to ask further questions. Membership of the Royal Arch is open to Master Masons. Details of Royal Arch chapters in the Province can be found in the Provincial Yearbook. Those interested in being exalted in the Royal Arch should, in the first instance, speak to their Lodge's Royal Arch Liaison Officer.

Cliff Brown



It may not have been the London Palladium, but many of the audience said that it was one of the best pantomimes that the cast had put together, and the children who attended the Saturday matinee must have agreed by their enthusiastic participation in dances and taunting of the cast.

Huge thanks must go to Peter and Gill Brown, as well as the Newmarket Masonic Hall, which supplied a wonderful 'theatre', and threw in a sausage supper for the cast and crew.

The panto will be run over the 2023 Festival period, although not every year. It will, however, be run in 2019 and will be the wonderful "Cinderella". There'll be dashing young men, pretty girls, ugly sisters and many more. It will be held on Friday 25th January and Saturday 26th January 2019.

So make a date in your diary and join in the fun.

Justin Curtis

Help for Young Carers

A group for young people who are carers for family members received a donation of £500 from Stone Cross Lodge No. 6704. On 29th February, representatives of Centre 33's Young Carers of March received a cheque from WBro. Paul Dunham, Worshipful Master of Stone Cross, and Almoner, WBro. Nigel Philpott. The Lodge, which meets at March, donated £250 and added £250 of matched funding from the City and University of Cambridge Masonic Charitable Trust.



Kate Rees (at back), WBro. Philpott and WBro. Dunham with some of the young carers

WBro. Dunham said: "The money will allow them to run activities and provide much-needed respite for these young people who have to provide care for others."

Also present was Kate Rees, Young Carers project manager, who explained how Centre 33, based in Cambridge, offers support to young carers aged eight years and above at various locations throughout Cambridgeshire, including through schools. Young carers get the chance to meet in groups to try new activities, make new friends and have some fun away from their home.

Cliff Brown

Hospice thanks Cambridgeshire's Freemasons

Arthur Rank Hospice has thanked Cambridgeshire's Freemasons and everyone who voted for the Hospice to receive funds during the Masonic Charitable Foundation Awards (MCF Awards), last summer.

The Province's Lodges contributed £219,745 towards the Hospice's state-of-the-art home since fundraising for the project began; with a further £17,080 – which includes £15,000 donated thanks to the public's vote for the MCF Awards – gifted towards the Hospice's general running costs between January and December 2017.



Donna Talbot explained the impact of the Freemasons' contributions: "2017 was a landmark year for us as we embarked upon a first year of delivering essential care from our new home. £10.5 million was always a lofty target for the building, but we are celebrating how far we have already come, thanks to our wonderfully involved and generous community.

"Arthur Rank Hospice has always been brilliantly supported by the Masonic Lodges in our county, but the level of their involvement, commitment and passion for our cause since we began the new building project in 2014, has been something else. The last four years have been so significant for the Hospice and we are forever grateful, not only for the Freemasons' financial support but also their ongoing interest in our journey as we continue to provide outstanding care to those who need us, now and in the future."

The Hospice was delighted to be chosen as one of the two beneficiaries of the Freemasons' Festival of Carols in December 2014, receiving £15,000. The Provincial Appeal by the Cambridgeshire Masonic Benevolent Association for the Arthur Rank Hospice, which ran from 2014 to the end of 2016, then raised a further £200,000 for the new building.

The Hospice was nominated in the MCF Tercentenary Awards last year and secured £15,000 for the Arthur Rank Community Team's Hospice at Home service. Finally, signing off a fabulous year of support, the MCF awarded the Hospice a further £2,080 in December 2017.

RWBro. William Dastur, Provincial Grand Master, added: "Cambridgeshire Freemasons were delighted to participate in raising funds for the building of the new Hospice. In 2017, our Tercentenary year, the Masonic Charitable Foundation - our national charity - organised a very successful Community Awards Scheme for local charities. Over 170,000 votes were cast throughout the country and we were pleased when the Hospice was awarded £15,000. We wish all staff and volunteers supporting specialist care for patients and their families, every success in the future."

More than 3000 people living with a life-limiting illness are cared for each year by the Arthur Rank Hospice in Cambridge, the day treatment centre in Wisbech and in patient's own homes through the Arthur Rank Community team.

The move to its state-of-the-art home just south of Cambridge, has allowed the Hospice to vastly increase its service capacity, flexibility and breadth of care. It is still working hard to find the remaining funds needed to offset the building's cost, on top of the £7.45 million it needs to secure annually in order to deliver its care free of charge.

Peter Sutton

Support for local Newmarket charities

During the year that WBro. Alan Neville occupied the chair of St Wendred Lodge No. 8374, his pledge was to raise as much money as possible in an effort to support his three nominated charities - namely the Newmarket Day Centre, Newmarket Open Door and Prospects Trust.

Through various during the year a total of £1,500 was raised and the cheques were duly delivered by WBro. Neville by hand to each of his charities. Sadly, Alan passed to the Grand Lodge above on 15th January.

Bryn Leaker



WBro. Neville presenting a cheque to Mrs Elvis McMinn, of the Newmarket Day Centre

Charity cheques at Whittlesey

Worshipful Master Gordon Stuttard organised a Thank You party on 24th September for members of St Andrew Lodge No. 4087 for all the support they have shown him during his year



in office and to distribute cheques to local charities.

Members of these local organisations (pictured above with Gordon) received cheques for £950 and were represented by Ian Palmer MBE (County Priory Group) on behalf on the St John Ambulance, Norman Flatt (Group Scout Leader) on behalf of the Whittlesey Scouts and Guides and Pam Potts, chair of the Scaldgate Club, a local group that gives help and support to adults with learning disabilities.

Richard Phillips

Honours for Tercentenary

As part of the Tercentenary celebrations in 2017, the Province has received two first appointments to Grand Rank and a promotion and six additional promotions to Past Provincial Grand Rank.

There is a first Grand Rank appointment for WBro. Tony Just, of St Wendred Lodge No. 8374, who led the Province's Tercentenary Committee. He will be appointed Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies. Joining Tony, who is also the Province's Deputy Grand Superintendent in the Royal Arch and was Provincial Senior Grand Warden in 2002, will be WBro. Richard George, of Granta Lodge No. 6179. Richard, who was appointed Past Provincial Junior Grand Warden in 2014, having been Provincial Assistant Grand Secretary, will also be appointed PAGDC.



There is a promotion for WBro. Charles Overland, of Lodge of United Good Fellowship No. 809, who will become Past Junior Grand Deacon, having been a PAGDC since 2003. Charles is a former Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, and is currently Second Provincial Grand Principal in the Royal Arch. All three were invested at Grand Lodge on 14th March.

Six Brethren who received Provincial honours as part of the Tercentenary awards have been invested at a meeting held at Ely.

The special meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge was held during the regular meeting of The Porta Lodge No. 9511 on 2nd February, after the Provincial Grand Master, RWBro. William Dastur had been authorised to appoint six Provincial Grand Officers to further enhance the Tercentenary celebrations.

Those appointed to Provincial Grand Lodge were: WBro. Mark Shields, The Porta Lodge No, 9511, to Past Provincial Junior Grand Deacon; WBro. Christopher Flood, Alma Mater Lodge No. 1492, to Past Provincial Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies; WBro. Crawford Kingsnorth, Old Leysian Lodge No. 4520 to Past Provincial Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies; WBro. Martin Culverhouse, St Audrey Lodge No. 2722, WBro. Peter Allen, Gray Lodge No. 4334 and WBro. Colin Baker, St Andrew Lodge No. 4087 to Past Provincial Grand Standard Bearer.

Cliff Brown and Mark Shields

Tercentenary celebration

Brethren from the Province joined the Tercentenary celebration at the Royal Albert Hall on 31st October. The Provincial Grand Master, RWBro. William Dastur and his deputy, VWBro. John Sherriff led a group of Grand Officers from the Province, while another group of about 20 brethren who had been lucky enough to secure tickets in the Provincial ballot were also present.



In the presence of the Grand Master, HRH The Duke of Kent, brethren from around the world were treated to an insight into the history of Freemasonry provided by leading actors including Sir Derek Jacobi, Samantha Bond and Sanjeev Bhaskar. A full report of the event appeared in Freemasonry Today's Winter 2017 issue.

One group of brethren also enjoyed a buffet lunch and guided tour of the Oxford and Cambridge Club, thanks to Provincial Grand Treasurer, WBro. David Blair, a former chairman of the club, and after the main event dined at the Farmers' Club, hosted by Provincial Grand Superintendent of Works, WBro. David Cameron.

Cliff Brown



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Please send any material for future issues to the editor: editorcambsmason@yahoo.co.uk

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