



Mark Provincial Times

APRIL 2021 Edition 11

Welcome from Ian Vincent

Welcome to the eleventh edition of the Monthly Newsletter for the Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons for Hampshire and Isle of Wight. I hope you enjoy this edition, and you find it informative and useful. If you have any comments, please contact me at newsletter@hants-iow-mark.org

Don't forget the Provincial Grand Lodge for Mark Master Masons for Hampshire and Isle of Wight has a website containing a lot of information. Please visit the website at this [link](#). Also a reminder that The Province of Hampshire and Isle of Wight for Mark Master Masons has its own [Facebook Group](#).

Get to know our Provincial Grand Almoner



I was born on 26th August 1939, in the Iford area of Bournemouth. I was brought up on a Council Estate, as so many others were in those days. As my father was in a very low paid job my mother worked when she could, to bring up myself and my two younger brothers. Mum had a tough time as her first husband died very early, about 33 years of age. Somehow, without state benefits, she managed to raise my elder brother and sister, she was wonderful. She was on her own for ten years before getting married to my father. My formal education was at Stourfield Secondary Modern School and we were the first year to sit G.C.E. "O" levels in that type of school, in 1955. I did obtain passes in English Language, English Literature, Maths and Woodwork. In September that year I started an Apprenticeship at SRDE, Christchurch. A Ministry of Supply Establishment at that time. In 1960 I qualified as an Instrument maker, having obtained City and Guilds Qualifications in a number of engineering and associated subjects.

Subscribe to our newsletters: <https://hants-iow-mark.org/province/subscribe>

After a few different jobs in engineering, I obtained a position as an Engineer Officer in the Merchant Navy, Travelling to Australia, New Zealand and around the Mediterranean. I joined the Hampshire Constabulary on 24th December, 1962, and for those of you who are old enough to remember, this was when a freeze started on the Boxing Day and lasted a number of months. In April the Passing Out Parade was held in the snow. On leaving the Police Training Centre at Folkestone I was posted to Eastleigh as a probationary Constable. Whilst on a course in Winchester I met a young woman police constable, Patricia Miell, who was just finishing her two years as a Probationer. On arriving at Eastleigh, she was there. One thing lead to another and we were married in June, 1964. Luckily we were allocated a house in Chandlers Ford. We have been blessed with four children, six grandchildren and two great grandchildren. We have quite an extended family from there. I served 27 years in the Police Force, during which I served as a uniform constable, a traffic patrol officer both on motor cycles and patrol cars. On promotion to sergeant I served in Gosport and then at the Police Training Centre in Ashford, Kent. On return to Hampshire I served in Romsey, Andover and Winchester as either a Patrol Sergeant or Custody Sergeant.

On leaving the force I took up employment as a Quality Manager. Finally retiring on 31st December, 2004.

In Freemasonry, I was Initiated into The Saint Hubert Lodge in October, 1974 and Passed and Raised during 1975. Subsequently I became a member of a number of other Orders and have been honoured in some with High Provincial Ranks and in others I have been appointed to Grand Rank. In two Orders I am making progress slowly. I have enjoyed my journey and now wish to put something back into this wonderful organisation.

W.Bro. Malcolm Lloyd, G.S.D., Provincial Grand Almoner.

2026 Festival – The MBF and you

Our Provincial Charity Steward has published a guide to how you can support the Mark Benevolent Fund as we head towards our 2026 Festival. Find the guide [here](#) and other relevant forms on our charity page [here](#).

Indeed, any individual that does make their first donation to the MBF for a Festival Jewel under this scheme will automatically qualify as a Life Governor of the MBF for which you will receive a breast jewel. You will therefore receive both your Life Governor jewel and the Festival jewel. Two for the price of one? That's a bargain!

Regalia Shop

Have you got any spare regalia, if so the PGM is very keen to set up a regalia shop with the proceeds going to the 2026 MBF Festival? The Provincial Grand Master is looking for someone to run this initiative so please contact him if you are able to help.

The Provincial Grand Master's Lodge of Instruction (East)

Despite not being able to meet in any form due to the various Covid-19 lockdowns and commensurate restrictions in place, the Provincial Grand Master's Lodge of Instruction (East) (LOI) held a very successful Virtual Business Meeting on Wednesday 10th March 2021, this in lieu of the planned Festival meeting, that was attended by the PGM and a small team of active Provincial Officers.

Pieces of ritual from the Ceremony of Advancement were ably delivered by members of the Lodge, namely Bro John Pereira and Bro Kevin Symes, who are progressing to the Chair of Adoniram. The PGM re-appointed as Preceptor, W Bro Michael Puddicombe, as Deputy Preceptor, W Bro David Martin and appointed as Assistant Preceptor, W Bro Derek Roberts. The PGM thanked the outgoing Assistant Preceptor, W Bro David Weeks, for his valued input to the Lodge over a number of years and also the backroom team who assist in keeping the Lodge on an even keel. The Master in the Chair, Bro Kevin Symes, presented to the PGM and on behalf of the Lodge a donation of £200.00 toward the 2026 MBF Festival. In his closing address to the Lodge, the PGM expressed the importance of each LOI, the integral part that they play in preparing Mark Master Masons for higher office and that he very much looked forward to being able to see the team in action in March 2022.

That's 2021 done and dusted. Onward to 2022. The LOI (East) AGM will be held on Wednesday 2nd June 2021 at Gosport Masonic Hall for which further detail will be promulgated via Lodge secretaries. As this will likely have

restricted attendance under the 'rule of six', time slots will be made available for current members who wish to continue in office and those who are interested in joining the LOI to come along and register.

It is anticipated that the 2022 season will start proper with a meeting on the first Wednesday in October 2021, and then on the first Wednesday of each month thereafter until March 2022. A full rehearsal is held on the Sunday preceding the meeting, i.e. Sunday 6th March, as final preparation for the Festival meeting that in 2022 is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 9th March.

The LOI (East) is open to all Mark Master Masons and particularly, but not exclusively, to those Lodges who meet in Portsmouth, Havant, Cosham, Fareham and Gosport. It offers an excellent opportunity for those working their way toward the Chair of Adoniram to practice their ritual in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere. If you are progressing through the offices, then why not join this small but enthusiastic group? It serves to provide a platform to enhance your learning while enabling you to make your daily advancement in Masonic knowledge, and in particular the Mark degree. The recent Festivals have been a great success and have earned justified and deserved praise for those taking part.

W.Bro. Chris Brier, P.A.G.D.C.

Clanfield Lodge of Mark Master Masons No 1385



Clanfield Lodge held their third, and hopefully final, Virtual Business Meeting on Monday 22nd March. At the meeting that was presided over by the WM, W Bro Nick Brier, a proposed programme for a return to business and face-to-face meetings was discussed. With fair luck and a following wind it is hoped that a meeting under the 'rule of six' restriction will take place on Monday 24th May. Following that will be the installation meeting on Monday 27th September and at which Bro Nick Milburn will be installed into the Chair of Adoniram, and this after an eighteen month wait!

At the meeting, the PGM, who is a member of the Lodge, advised that a virtual AGM will be held on Saturday 17th April with an investiture meeting being held at Botley on Saturday 8th August. The latter will have restricted attendance and will be dependent on there being no Covid restrictions in place. He thanked all for attending this VBM and particularly W Bro's Colin Scott and Mike Foster in their roles as VGO and Group Rep respectively. He asked that all remain positive and look to the future months when we will be able to meet again. He asked that all keep an eye on the more elderly members of the Lodge.

W.Bro. Chris Brier, P.A.G.D.C.

Thistle & Shamrock Lodge of MMM No1048 celebrate their 75th Anniversary.



Many congratulations to the Worshipful Master and brethren of Thistle & Shamrock Lodge of MMM No1048, who celebrated their 75th Anniversary on 18 March 2021.

Brethren our PGM gave a wonderful address to the brethren on tonight's zoom meeting and we were treated to a 1st class explanation of the very 1st minutes of the lodge and the history of how and when the lodge was consecrated with 163 brethren attending on 21st March 1946 at Cosham Masonic Hall.

Also it was an absolute privilege to witness W. Bro Michael Foster P.G.Std.B receive his 40th year MMM certificate from our PGM.

It was another brilliant zoom meeting, seeing all the brethren.

Stay safe brethren.

W.Bro. Brian Durrant,

Congratulations to those Brethren being reappointed or receiving Grand Rank

Congratulations to those Brethren being re-appointed to active Grand Rank and those Brethren receiving first appointments to Past Grand Rank. There have been further appointments and promotions throughout the Province and details can be found at the following [link](#) on the Provincial website.

It has been another exceptional year for the Province of Hampshire & Isle of Wight. I am sure you will all wish to join the Provincial Grand Master and his Executive in congratulating these worthy Brethren on their preferment. Brethren will be invested with their new ranks at the communication of Grand Lodge scheduled for Tuesday 7th September 2021 at Freemasons' Hall, 60 Great Queens Street, London. Plans are being considered for a slightly different format for the September communication this year to enable all recipients of Grand Rank (appointments and promotions) to be invested. Further information on this will be circulated when known.

W.Bro. Nigel D Bell Provincial Grand Secretary

Congratulations to those Brethren being promoted in Provincial Grand Rank

The Provincial Grand Master has been pleased to promote Brethren in the Province of Hampshire & Isle of Wight, details may be found at this [link](#). The seniority date for these appointments will be the 17th of April 2021.

Subscribe to our newsletters: <https://hants-iow-mark.org/province/subscribe>