

# PROVINCIAL NEWSLETTER

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS AND ROYAL ARK MARINERS OF DURHAM

## DURHAM



PGM of DURHAM - RW.Bro. Prof. DENOVAN KEITH WILSON



In 2016 at the Nationwide Motorcycle Museum in Birmingham NEC Centre a partnership between Yamaha Motorcycles UK and the National Association of Blood Bikes was launched.

This partnership together developed a motor bike machine suitable for the NHS applications of the out of hours blood product delivery. This cooperation marked a significant milestone in the development of the NABB service to the community and is being rolled out over the 34 local volunteer blood rider groups in the UK.

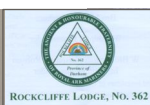
The Blood Bike Riders deliver blood and urgent medical supplies out of hours, between hospitals, health centres and laboratories. Whenever there is an emergency the Bikes can get to their destination quicker and deliver the vital material as soon as possible so greatly increasing the effectiveness of the critical aid needed.

On the 17th August 2018 there will be special event at the Nationwide Motorcycle Museum in Birmingham when as part of the NABB Annual Awareness Day representatives from every Province will attend a presentation and information event celebrating the handover of 22 Blood Bikes since the inception of this initiative by the Freemasons. The Province of Durham will be represented in Birmingham by Paul Paterson and John Stevenson and they will report on the event when they return.

This important event marks another milestone in the 150th MBF Anniversary Year celebrations and follows on from the highly successful MBF Charity Walk of 2017 when many Province of Durham Brethren took part.



Ronald Amar - Jeffrey Awdas - Philip Nicholson - Michael Graham - Kenneth Robson - Alan Cuthbertson - James Collagly - Chris Raven - David Fuller



Jeffrey Awdas, Michael Graham Alan Cuthbertson

**Rockcliffe Lodge of RAM No.362** on Friday 16th March 2018 Installed Bro.Michael Graham as their new Worshipful Commander in excellent manner with WBro.Kenneth U. Robson as the Installing Commander. The Representative of the Right Worshipful PGM was WBro.Jeffrey Awdas,ProvGRank,ProvGJW and he was accompanied by WBro.Alan Cuthbertson,RAMGR. The 23 Brethren attending enjoyed a most enjoyable evening, glad the Rockcliffe Mariners are on course to a bright future with such a strong lodge.



George Moody, David Fitzgibbon, Paul Smith, John Sowerby after being presented with their Grand Lodge Certificates, also Nicholas Howell who is not in the photograph.



Four new Mark Masters with the WM Samuel J.Neil,PGJO and WBro.George Clark,PGSD

**St.Lawrence Lodge of Mark Master Masons**

**No.1093** have to be congratulated on their highly successful move to the Masonic Hall in Billingham thus becoming the first Mark Master Masons Lodge in Billingham. This is already producing excellent results when the lodge at their previous meeting advanced four Brethren as Mark Master Masons who at last nights meeting were present to receive their Grand Lodge Certificates. This was witnessed by the new Honourary Member of St.Lawrence Mark Lodge, WBro.George Clark,PGSD. George had encouraged the idear of moving to Billingham and is delighted to see the lodge making such excellent progress. One more brother who was to be advanced at this meeting was unfortunately detained at work but will be at the next meeting, work permitting. It was decided to conduct a ceremony of Advancement with WBro.Stephen Bell standing in as a candidate. After the meeting the brethren enjoyed an excellent festive board and the evening closed with the lodge confident of a very bright future in Billingham.

**A Monumental Welcome!**



The Peshaw Monument is an iconic Greek Temple structure that dominates the skyline and is clearly visible from all directions. It is a daily reminder to the residents or visitors to Durham, Wearside and Tyneside of the first Earl of Durham (*John George Lambton 1792-1840*). Standing boldly on the top of Peshaw Hill, between Washington and Houghton-le Spring it is visible for miles as a beacon, drawing many visiting crowds since its construction in 1844.

The inspiration of that marvellous structure was not lost on the original thirty one founders naming their new entity, 'Monument Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners, mooring the newly formed Lodge alongside the Peshaw Mark Lodge No 1055. Their meetings took place at the Masonic Hall, Shiney Row, Peshaw from its consecration on the 10<sup>th</sup>

of May 2002 until 10<sup>th</sup> December 2008. From 2009 until 2013 the brethren held their meetings at Washington, when that building was sold they moved to Gateshead.

So what is different about this particular Royal Ark Mariners Lodge? This Lodge is one of only two 'daytime' lodges in the Province of Durham. the other being Chief of the Builders. The Lodge has some 18 subscribing members, including 10 original founders namely; Gilbert Crossley, Terence Crumpton, Keith Dinning, Michael Graham, Gordon Graves, David Kay, John Kay, Chris Morris, Frank Rankin, and Stuart Inghram. In addition WBro.James Edward Harker PDep.Provincial Grand Master of the Mark Degree was the first Worshipful Commander of the Lodge and is now a Honorary Member of this Lodge.

The Lodge meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in May (Installation), September and December from 10.30am followed by lunch at approximately 12.30pm.

So you may have noted that on Tuesday the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 2018 from 10.30am the lodge will be holding its Installation Meeting at Gateshead Masonic Hall when Alan Simpson, Junior Warden, Master Elect will be Installed as the Worshipful Commander. The lodge business also includes a candidate for Elevation and the welcoming of a joining member.

There is an open invitation to brethren of the Royal Ark Mariner Degree to come along and join the celebration of these events or indeed any future meeting.

Although you are unable to view that wonderful 'Monument' at Peshaw from Gateshead you will receive a monumental welcome to that or any of the Monument Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners meetings.

Maybe, when you next view the Peshaw Monument, just think of those Royal Ark Mariners who meet at Gateshead Masonic Hall, Alexandra Road, Gateshead. NE8 1RE and maybe change your daily routine to meet brethren in a daylight lodge.

Michael Wilkinson (information provided by Frank Rankin)



WBro Lynn congratulating W.Bro Martin on being installed as Master, Happy smiling faces following the installation no doubt looking forward to the refreshments to follow.



St Aidan Lodge of Mark Master Masons

No 1145

By the 12<sup>th</sup> March the snow had almost gone (even in the Consett- Blackhill area) just in time for St Aidan Mark lodge to hold it's Annual Installation meeting. W.Bro. Gary Martin PAGDC PPrGJW was to be installed as Master for the year. Unfortunately our Worshipful Master W.Bro. Ted Yeoman PPrGSD would have been the Installing Master but was unable to attend. The installation was carried out by W.Bro. Keith Robson PASwB PPrGSD. W.Bro Ronald Trevor Lynn PPrGSW Prov.Grand Secretary represented the R.W.Provincial Grand Master at the meeting accompanied by W.Bro. Sidney James Watson Prov.AGDC..



**ST.PATRICKS' DAY CHARITY GALA  
Shiney Row Masonic Hall - 17 March 2018**

A little background, David Homer lost his eldest son to cancer whilst he was still a young man. Being determined not to let this family tragedy be in vain, the family have decided to do what ever they can to repay the help, support and kindness they received from the staff at the RVI.

So with this in view, David set the task of holding a social on St Patricks Day to raise some funds in aid of the **Teenage Cancer Unit based at the RVI.**

With more than 80 people present, the superior buffet of salmon, beef, and all manner of other tasty delights was eagerly shared by all.

The entertainment was provided by **The Jersey 4**, a group of lads well known to David, who had everyone foot tapping, dancing and signing along to songs from Frankie Vallie and the Bee Gee's.

The ubiquitous raffle, numbers draw, and the special auction, including a 4 ball on the championship course at Slaney Hall, signed football memorabilia from Sunderland, Newcastle



and Man Utd, and many other donated items raised the magnificent sum of **£3,360.**

**It was a fantastic night and David and his family, the W.M of Penschaw Mark lodge 1055, W.Bro. Shaun Reay deserve all the praise for an evening which will live long in the memory.**

*J.Higginbottom.*



W.Bro. Shaun Reay

With a special 3 x 45 minute set selection of top class tributes to include: Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons, Take That- Could it be magic? Beach Boys, Bee Gees, Plus other Motown favourites. The show takes you back in time to those original boy band harmonies and the infamous Red Jackets, but at the same time allow the lads the freedom to add their own spin & flair, they deliver their own tribute to the music of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons. Having perfected their vocals, the dance moves and all of the biggest hits designed to get you on the dance floor and keep you there. They are the perfect cocktail for a truly great night. You will be surprised at how many of the songs that you will remember with just a short sample below to bring it all back to you. *Oh what a night • Sherry • Walk like a man • Big girls don't cry • Let's hang on • By bye baby • Rag doll Earth Angel • Working my way back to you • Can't take my eyes off you • Beggin'*

# WARDENS ON PARADE





## Wardens on Parade

09/03/2018

Since 2011 it has become an Annual tradition for current and Past Grand Wardens of the Durham Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons to attend the March regular meeting of Ferryhill Lodge MM. The year was no different and the Provincial Grand Master, R W Bro Professor Denovan Keith Wilson accompanied by a Deputation of his Officers where received into the Lodge.

It was also an opportunity for more than thirty one brethren who had been privileged to act in the capacity of a Provincial Grand Warden to come together in one meeting. An opportunity to catch up and recall their respective experiences during their year of office with one another. An opportunity to demonstrate that they continue to work on behalf of the Mark Mason degree many continuing to have active and leading roles within and beyond the Province of Durham.

### “ Mark Benevolent Fund Donates £1000 to Special School “

At the instigation of W Bro Philip Quinn of **Eclectic Lodge of MMM No 39** the Chairman of the Mark Benevolent Fund, V W Bro Danny Guy, accompanied by W Bro Philip and the Treasurer, V W Bro Roy Neville, presented a cheque for £1000 to Zoe Westley, Head Teacher of Springwell School, Hartlepool.

The purpose of the grant was to replace worn and obsolete items in the soft play area of this very special school catering for 70 children with special educational needs. As the Mark team arrived 6 severely handicapped children in specially adapted wheelchairs were leaving on a visit to the local library each with a member of the 48 dedicated staff. The presentation was followed by an impressive demonstration of number skills with the dual theme of “ pie “ and “ pi “ and then by a happy sing song.



Congratulations to the Mark degree in the Province of Durham on a moving and worthwhile project. “

## OBITUARIES

“THEY REST FROM THEIR LABOURS AND THEIR GOOD WORKS DO FOLLOW THEM, THANKS BE TO GOD THEY HAVE MARKED WELL”

16/02/2018 - W Bro John Swinhoe, M896 (Hon) PPrGSO (N’Land) RAM 896 (Hon)

24/02/2018 - Bro Albert William Chambers, M1626

05/03/2018 - W Bro Gordon McPherson Maddison, M1145 (Hon) PPrGIWks

06/03/2018 - W Bro Colin Robinson, M1112 PPrGJO

16/03/2015 - W Bro Thomas Robson Scott M124 (Hon), M718, M1093, M1492 PAGStB, RAM 124 (Hon) RAM 1055.





**Provincial Grand Lodge  
of  
Mark Master Masons  
of  
Durham**



**Mark Gala Dinner**

on  
**SATURDAY 12th MAY 2018**

at  
**SPENNYMOOR TOWN HALL**

**HIGH STREET  
SPENNYMOOR  
Co. DURHAM  
DL16 6DG**

Entertainment by

**Mark McCann**

Reception: 6.45pm, for Dinner at: 7.15pm, Carriages: 11.30pm

**Tickets — £26.00**

Tickets can be obtained from:

A J Clark, 155 Hilda Park, Chester-le-Street, Co Durham, DH2 2JS [ajc5807@gmail.com](mailto:ajc5807@gmail.com)

Please make Cheques payable to "Mark Coordinating Committee"

**Please include a Stamped Addressed Envelope**

**Dietary Needs Only**

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Alternative Main  
Salmon or Vegetarian

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If you or any Guest  
Has Dietary Needs  
Please Order the Alternative  
By 28<sup>th</sup> April 2018

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Contact Arthur Clark  
[ajc5807@gmail.com](mailto:ajc5807@gmail.com)  
Please make Cheques payable to  
**Mark Coordinating Committee**

**No Meal changes are possible**

**Mark Gala Dinner**

12<sup>th</sup> May 2018

Dress Formal

**Menu**

To Start With

**Melon with Forest Fruit's**

And Then

**Topside of Beef**

**Yorkshire Pudding**

**Creamed & Roast Potatoes**

**A Medley of Vegetables**



"I was built by a Freemason!"

Brethren can support the Durham 2020 Festival by purchasing this special badge which can be supplied by

WBro.Graham Wharton on

07855815958

and VWBro.Frank Rankin



**PGL of Durham Mark Golf Day**

Brethren,

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Durham Mark Golf Day will be held at The George Washington Hotel & Golf Club, Stone Cellar Road, Washington, NE37 1PH, on:

**TUESDAY 3rd July 2018 from 9am onwards.**

The format of the day is as follows:

Tea/Coffee, and a Bacon Roll will be served from 9-15am.

1<sup>st</sup> Tee-off at 10-04am.

Complimentary ticket for 25 balls to 'warm-up' in the driving area.

18 holes of golf.

1 x 'Nearest the Pin' prize, and 1 x 'Longest Drive' prize provided by the Club.

2 course meal, and presentations after the golf.

Total cost = £37-50

Deposit: £10 to be sent to Allan Gurney, 18 Staithes Court, Seaham, SR7 7WF

NB: Please note that this is intended as a fun day out for Masons, so that you can meet and mix with other Masons, and players of all handicap abilities are invited to come along and join in. As far as possible, players will be grouped according to ability.

The closing date is Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> June (the Annual Mark Meeting). Therefore, would those wishing to enter, please contact me as soon as possible, so that I know if there will be sufficient numbers to make the event viable.

ALLAN GURNEY – email: [agurney@uwclub.net](mailto:agurney@uwclub.net)

Mobile: 07802-700423



**Scarbrough Court, Northumberland**

Alexandra Way, Cramlington, Northumberland,  
NE23 6ED

**Events Diary**

- 24th March 2018 - Easter Fair

- 14th July 2018 - A G M @ 9.30 Followed by Summer Fair

- 18th August 2018 - Summer Party @ 1pm

Full details to follow.

- 6th October 2018 - Coffee Morning

- 1st December 2018 - Christmas Fair

- 15th December 2018 - Grand Raffle Draw / Christmas Party.

MARK / APRIL	2018	DAY	TIME	NOTES
Staindrop no.1274	2	Monday	6.45	
Hackworth no.761	3	Tuesday	6.45	
Cestria no.1151	3	Tuesday	6.45	
Steadfast no.846	4	Wednesday	6.45	
Unity no.827	5	Thursday	7.00	Installation
Indaba no.1936	6	Friday	6.45	Dispensation for changed date
Harte no.740	9	Monday	7.00	
Elevation no.1112	12	Thursday	6.45	
Percy no.122	12	Thursday	7.00	
Ryton no.1714	13	Friday	7.00	Provincial visit
Jarrow no.701	16	Monday	7.00	
Ambrose Crowley no,1269	17	Tuesday	6.45	
William Todd no.929	17	Tuesday	6.45	Meets at The Manor House, West Auckland DL14 9HW
Ernest Dixon no.1015	17	Tuesday	7.00	
Clavering no. 896	19	Thursday	7.00	
Barnard Castle no.778	20	Friday	6.45	Provincial visit
Moseley no.925	20	Friday	7.00	
Shipleigh no.1271	24	Tuesday	7.00	Installation
Eclectic no.39	24	Tuesday	7.00	
Durham PGSt no.1820	25	Wednesday	7.00	
St.Andrew's no.854	26	Thursday	6.45	Provincial visit/ SS Beattie 50th Certificate
Union no.124	26	Thursday	7.00	Installation
Industry no.293	29	Thursday	7.00	Dispensation for changed date

**PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE  
OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF  
DURHAM**

**DURHAM LODGE  
OF  
INSTALLED MARK MASTERS  
No.1492**

**21ST MAY 2018**  
**TONIGHT IS A PRESENTATION  
OF "THE FOURTH STEP TO THE  
MARK".**

All Mark Lodges throughout the Province are cordially invited to attend this meeting. This is the forerunner of the presentation now ready to tour around the Province. It will be an ideal opportunity for any lodge to preview the presentation prior to inviting the Durham Lodge of Mark Masters to arrange your own OPEN EVENING.

This is great opportunity to invite and bring along any Master Mason who may be interested in becoming a member of YOUR Lodge.

All we ask is to let us know by 12/5/18 if you intend to dine, no dining charge will apply for any non Mark Mason.

We look forward to meet with and WELCOME you to our lodge.

This event is open for ALL Master Masons and YOU are invited

If you wish to dine afterwards the cost will be £7.00 but please let me know before hand on

Tel. **07763063120**  
or Email: **mj.cgraham9910@gmail.com**

Remember no charge for NON Mark Masons

RAM / APRIL	2018	DAY	TIME	NOTES
Eclectic no.39	2	Monday	7.00	
Ryton no.1714	4	Wednesday	7.00	
Stanhope no.1551	6	Friday	7.00	
Dunelm no.356	11	Wednesday	6.30	
Union no. 124	11	Wednesday	7.00	
Darlington no.250	11	Wednesday	6.45	Installation
Bernard Gilpin no. 860	16	Monday	7.00	Provincial Visit
Hackworth no.761	16	Monday	6.45	Installation
Spennymoor no.981	23	Monday	6.45	
Elevation no.1112	25	Wednesday	7.00	
Clavering no. 896	26	Thursday	7.00	Installation
Barnard Castle no.778	30	Monday	7.00	

**JIM STUBBINGS**  
**WARDEN OF REGALIA**  
Tel: 0191-4166764  
Email: j.stubbings@talktalk.net



Grand Meetings Calendar 2018 - by F.Beales

Order	Meeting	Date	To be held at	Meeting Starts	Meeting Finishes	Dining Start	Finish
MARK	Grand Lodge	Tuesday, 13 March 2018	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	3.30 PM	5:00 PM
MARK	Grand Lodge - Annual Investiture	Tuesday, 12 June 2018	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	1:00 PM	4:00 PM	5:00 PM	6:30 PM
MARK	Grand Lodge	Tuesday, 11 September 2018	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	3.30 PM	5:00 PM
RAM	Annual Assembly	Tuesday, 11 December 2018	FMH, Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ	4:30 PM	5:45 PM	6:30 PM	8:00 PM

Provincial Annual Meetings 2018

MARK	Mark Annual General Meeting	Wednesday, 27 June 2018 - 3.00pm	Lancastrian Suite, Dunston, NE11 9JR
RAM	Annual Assembly	Friday, 23 March 2018 - 6.30pm	Masonic Hall, Ferryhill, DL17 8HX