

THE MARK BENEVOLENT FUND CHARITY WALK

On 6th May 2017 there will be a Charity Walk in London organised by the Mark Benevolent Fund. The walk will cover about 8 miles, taking in the major parks and points of interest in London. The objective is to involve representatives from every UK Province in a sponsored walk which, it is hoped, will raise in the region of \pounds 100,000 for the next major cause the fund chooses to support.

Each Province is invited to send a Sponsored Walk Team of six members, led by it's PGM. Danny Guy, Stuart Ingram, Frank Rankin, Trevor Lynn, and Tony Craven will join me as members of the Team and all are on diets and breaking in their walking shoes!

The objective of each Team is to attract sponsorship from as many of the brethren and Lodges in their Province as possible. You will be aware that I have already written to members to encourage them to make individual donations which can count towards a personal Mark Benevolent Fund Honorific and also to the next Durham Festival. I write now to ask if your Lodge might make a donation which, if you wish, could go towards the contribution of your Lodge to the next Durham Festival.

Sponsoring the Team is very simple. The MBF has set up a website and all you have to do is go to the dedicated Durham Page at <u>http://durham.mbfwalk.org.uk</u>, credit card in hand if your Lodge has one, and make whatever donation you wish.

Alternatively, you may send a cheque made payable to **The Mark Benevolent Fund**, to our Walk Liaison Officer Graham Bainbridge at 28, Swirral Edge, Washington, Tyne & Wear, NE37 1UW, for onward transmission to Grand Lodge.

Should you send a cheque, I recommend that you indicate that the donation is in the name of your Lodge and, in addition to sponsoring the provincial Team, is to be counted towards the next Durham Festival. I do hope your Lodge will support the Team and that together we will raise a total of which we can be proud.

Yours sincerely and fraternally, Denny.

FEBRUARY 2017

INFORMATION



Congratulations W.Bro.Norman Watson, PM, PPrGSW on having Marked Well for 50 years as a Mark Master Mason in the Dunelm Lodge of MMM no.356.

On Tuesday, 20th Dec 2016, the Provincial Grand Master, Rt W Bro Prof. Denovan Keith Wilson visited **W Bro Norman Watson., PM, PPrGSW**, at his home in Durham and presented him with a certificate to mark his 50 years membership of the Mark Degree.

W Bro Norman was advanced into Dunelm Lodge of Mark Master Masons, No 356, on 22nd September, 1966, he was Master in 1981 and subsequently appointed Past Provincial Junior Grand Warden and later promoted to Past Provincial Senior Grand Warden.

Earlier this year W Bro Norman celebrated his 100th birthday.

Also present were W Bro Trevor Lynn, Provincial Grand Secretary, W Bro Michael Crabtree WM, (who presented W Bro Norman with a bottle of his favourite tipple) W Bro J B Gibson DC and W Bro R S Hodgson, Secretary, all Dunelm Mark'.

Ray Hodgson, PGJD, Secretary, Dunelm Mark

The Darlington Lodge of Mark Masters No.250 were the hosts for a visit by the Provincial Grand Master and the Provincial Team on the 11th January 2017.

Interestingly, this Darlington Lodge is the fourth oldest Mark Lodge in the Province of Durham, having been consecrated on the 13th December 1879. Mark Province of Northumberland and Durham was constituted in 1870, just nine years before. On the 22nd June 1920 Northumberland and Durham became two Provinces with their own Constitutions and this means that the Darlington Mark Masters No.250 Lodge will celebrate it's 150 Anniversary within the same twelve months that the Durham Province of Mark Master Masons celebrates the 100th Anniversary of it's formation.

The work of the evening included a demonstration and talk entitled "Introduction to Life Support with CPR and Defibrillation", delivered by the WM, WBro.Simon A. Radonicich, PPrGJO. The talk proved to be very informative with several props to aid in a full explanation of what is involved in giving effective first aid in a real situation.

At the festive board the raffle prizes had been donated by several local craft shops from Reeth and Swaledale which is the area covered by WBro.Simon A.Radonicich,PPrGJO, in his role as a First Responder Officer. The brethren enjoying their festive board were delighted to contribute to this worthy cause knowing how important this service can be in saving lives. An excellent night it turned out to be for all. *With thanks for information to WBro.P.Harrison,ProvGJW.*



The PGM receiving a cheque for £100 for the **MBF Charity Walk** from the **Darlington Lodge of Mark Masters No.250**, the PGM accidentally referred to the walk as a "RUN" this immediately got the attention of VWBro.Danny Guy, Deputy PGM, but he was quickly informed that this will be a walk and not a run!! Therefore the training programe can be resumed as before...



WBro.Simon A.Radonicich,PPrGJO,WM, giving his lecture on first aid in the Temple at Darlington.



W Bro. Raymond Davis, Worshipful Commander of Barnard Castle Lodge No. 778 with all of his officers at his Installation.'

At the Installation Meeting of **Barnard Castle Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners No 778** on Monday 21st November, newly installed Worshipful Commander Raymond Davis was very proud to invest every one of his appointed officers on what was a very stormy night in Teesdale. The turnout was remarkable considering the inclement weather, and the fact that 16 of the 18 Lodge members were present, most of who had travelled a long distance.

Everyone had a most enjoyable evening, and at the Festive Board the Worshipful Commander thanked all for turning up, particularly the visitors, and for making his evening special.

Penshaw lodge of MMM No. 1055 were delighted to welcome at their meeting on the 12th January 2017, WBro John Nicholson,PPrGJO, who had kindly agreed to give the brethren a talk entitled the "Metropolitan Grand Lodge".

WBro. John has a great knowledge of and is actively involved with the lodges of the Metropolitan District of London. 31 brethren, which included WBro.Alan Gurney, ProvGSW, really enjoyed an excellent presentation which gave a detailed explanation and insight into the way London works and how much it costs!! The evening continued with an excellent festive board rounding off a very enjoyable night full of interest and harmony.



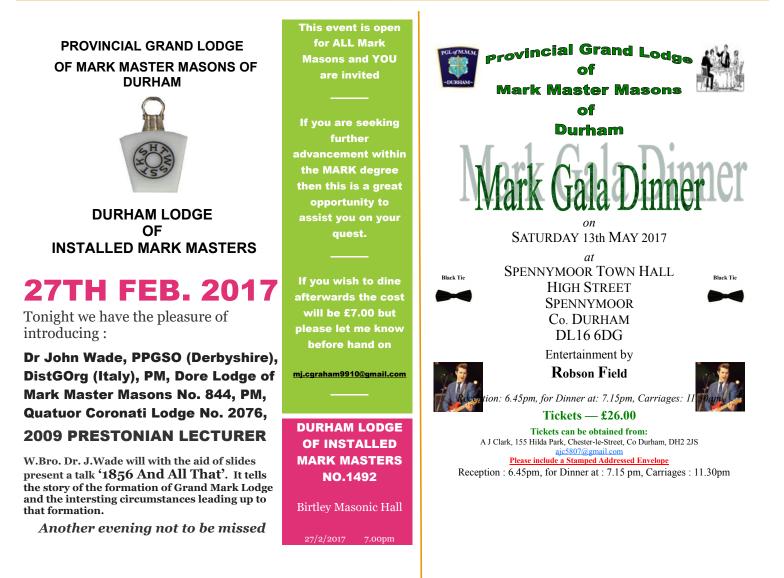
WBro.J.Nicholson,PPrGJO and WBro.Alan Gurney,ProvGSW discussing some of the many interesting points referred to in the talk given by WBro. Nicholson,PPrGJO.





WBro.John Nicholson, PPGJO and WBro.Joe Higginbottom, WM

INFORMATION



Province of Durham Mark and Royal Ark Mariner Degree.

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION

I would like to invite any brother with a keen interest in our rituals to come and join the Lodge of Instruction. We exist to provide Lodges within our Province with experienced Mark and Royal Ark Mariner Masons who can be called upon to fill any vacant position within your Lodge, often at very short notice. We also attend Lodges as a full team to demonstrate the current ritual in both degrees, sometimes with explanations. Our members are spread throughout the Province and our Secretary will be pleased to make the necessary arrangements.

Could you be a member of our team ? You have spent a great deal of time and effort learning the ritual as you have progressed through our degrees, don't let that knowledge slip away into the mists. Come and join us and give a little extra to those Lodges who can benefit from your experience.

To join the Durham Mark Lodge of Instruction will cost you £25. BUT that is for life.

The Secretary would be pleased to receive your call either as a prospective new member or a Lodge looking for assistance.

Please Contact Graham Bainbridge on 07572 095762 or email him on grahambainbridge3@gmail.com, We are here to help.

Stuart A R Ingram - PGJO, APGM, Preceptor of the Lodge of Instruction.

INFORMATION



Like many of us, W.Bro. Allan Gurney will be out and about at many Lodges, Chapters, and other Masonic events over the next few months.

However, you may see him struggling under the weight of a 1 litre bottle of malt whisky (Bowmore Islay). You can relieve him of his burden by buying a number for £1 (yes, it's a steal - only 1 pound Sterling for a litre of malt whisky!). This will enter you into the draw for the said bottle, which will be held in June.

All proceeds from the draw are to be donated to the 2021 Festival. So, get those £1 coins out, Brethren!

FEBRUARY / MARK	2017	DAY	TIME	NOTES	Please send any material for
Steadfast no.846	1	Wednesday	6.45	Provincial Visit	<i>newsletter direct to :</i> 9 Raby Gardens, Jarrow, NE32 5DD. E-mail: mschoolkate@gmail.com Telephone: 07851427664.
Walton no.1106	6	Monday	6.45		
Industry no.293	6	Monday	7.00	Installation	
Hackworth no.761	7	Tuesday	6.45		
Cestria no.1151	7	Tuesday	6.45		With Thanks.
Elevation no.1112	9	Thursday	6.45		
Percy no.122	9	Thursday	7.00		
Bede no.605	10	Friday	7.00		
Harte no.740	13	Monday	7.00	Installation	
Bernard Gilpin no.860	14	Tuesday	7.00		
Barnard Castle no.778	17	Friday	6.45		
Moseley no.925	17	Friday	7.00	Provincial Visit	
Jarrow no.701	20	Monday	7.00		
Ambrose Crowley no.1269	21	Tuesday	6.45		
William Todd no.929	21	Tuesday	6.45	Provincial Visit	
Dunelm no.356	23	Thursday	6.45	Installation	
St.Andrews no.854	23	Thursday	6.45		WARDEN OF REGALIA JAMES STUBBINGS
Union no.124	23	Thursday	7.00		
Durham of Inst.Masters no.1492	27	Monday	6.30		
Shipley no.1271	28	Tuesday	7.00		
FEBRUARY / RAM	2017	DAY	TIME	NOTES	11 Marwell Drive, The Glade,
Dunelm no.356	8	Wednesday	6.30		Usworth Hall, Washington, Tyne and Wear, NE37 3LH.
Darlington no.250	8	Wednesday	6.45		Tel: 0191-4166764 Email: j.stubbings@talktalk.net Lots of Regalia in stock, please ring or call in to see what is available.
Union no.124	8	Wednesday	7.00	Provincial visit	
Elevation no.1112	22	Wednesday	7.00	Installation	
Clavering no.896	23	Thursday	7.00		
Bede no.605	28	Tuesday	6.45		



OBITUARIES

10th November 2016 – Michael Alfred Norris M846 PPrGStwd 16th December 2016 – Dr Alan Martin Davison M1806 PGSD