

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



ROYAL ARK MARINERS PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY - FERRYHILL 31 MARCH 2017

The meeting was opened in due form with the customary impressive parade of the Past Provincial Grand Masters, and the Provincial Grand Master, RWBro.Prof. Denovan K.Wilson accompanied by his Sword and Standard Bearers. Salutations were conducted by the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies.

The PGM called on the Grand Chaplain to a dedication to departed Brethren which concluded with a beautiful and appropriate piece of music played by the Provincial Grand Organist WBro.B.Tallentire. The PGM addressed the meeting by welcoming all present here tonight. He was delighted that all of his Royal Ark Team members were present and that all of the 22 Royal Ark Mariner Lodges were represented.

He noted that the success of our Durham Royal Ark Mariner Province was down to the collective strength of our members, whose enthusiasm is the catalyst for our future success.

He continued to thank all Royal Ark Mariner's throughout the Province for their excellent work and reiterated that we are all ambassadors of our RAM Lodges and that we must strive where possible to proactively seek out new and suitable candidates from among the 600 Mark Masons who are not yet a Royal Ark Mariner, by informing them about the Royal Ark Mariner degree and encouraging them to join.

The PGM offered his warm congratulations to those brethren who had received RAM Grand Rank in December 2016.

The most important part of the proceedings was the investiture appointments to Royal Ark Mariner Provincial Grand Rank. The PGM thanked them for all the work they had done, and will still do.

He then invited the promoted Royal Ark Mariners to take their place in the Provincial Team and proceeded to appoint and invest the acting officers for the ensuing year, thanking them for taking this office and Rank.

A vote of thanks was then offered to all the Provincial Secretarial Team; to those who had assisted in organising social functions and events for the Mariner Degree; and to the organising committee and brethren who had enabled such a successful Assembly meeting to take place.

The retiring Assistant Provincial Grand Master WBro.Stuart.A.R.Ingram,RAMGR, received a special vote of thanks for the tremendous asset he has been to the Province. His successor was announced to be WBro.David Hanson.

The Meeting showed their appreciation with warm applause for all the Royal Ark Mariners who had received a special mention or promotion.

The Provincial Grand Master concluded with how much he has been inspired by the Brethren in the Province, who do wonderful things, inspirational and beautiful. He looks forward to many more years of growth and success for the Royal Ark Mariner Degree.



Danny Guy

Denovan Wilson

Eric Heaviside





W.Bro. Arthur Clark and Mrs Marian Clark Presenting a Cheque for £750 to the Trustees Of Daft as a Brush Cancer Patient Care, Mr Brian Burnie and Jean Ross the Trustees were most grateful to receive this Cheque stating. This gift will further assist the work that the cancer Charity does for patients that require a bespoke Transport Service to and from hospital whilst undergoing chemotherapy and or radiotherapy. Arthur and Marian wish to thank all the Friends and Brethren who supported the fund raising Social and for the fantastic amount raised.

MBF CHARITY WALK IN LONDON

Dear Brethren,

With 21 days still to go the total sponsorship raised to-date in our Province stands at £11,307. This is tremendous support, for which the members of our Team and I thank you most sincerely. The total results from donations from the following.

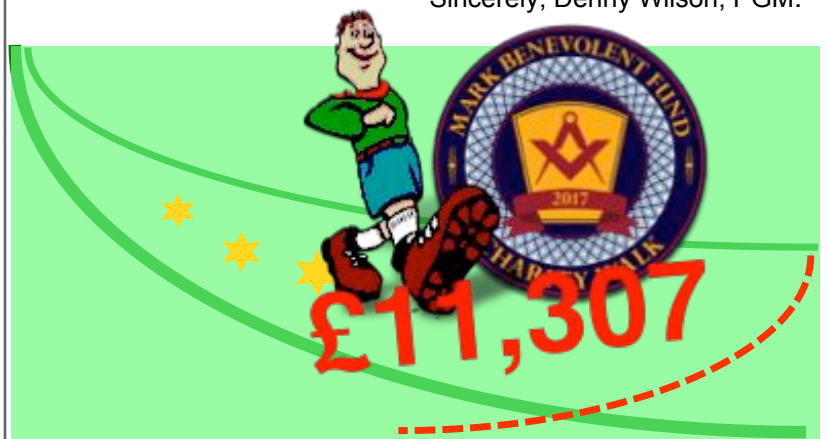
118 Individual Brethren & Relatives	£ 6197
29 Mark Lodges	£ 3260
16 RAM Lodges	£ 1150
Northumberland & Durham District AMD	£ 50
Grand Officers Dinner	£ 650
Total	£ 11307

The total raised in all Provinces to-date stand at a wonderful £213,552, **every penny of which, plus any further donations, will be used by MBF to improve and even save lives.** So, on behalf of all those who will benefit from your outstanding generosity, I extend sincere thanks.

My good and wonderful brethren, you are Marking so well - but you always do!

Further donations during the remaining 21 days will of course be most welcome. To make them, simply go to mbfwalk.org.uk and donate on line, or send your donations to our Walk Liaison Officer, Graham Bainbridge at 28, Swirral Edge, Washington, Tyne & Wear, NE37 1UW.

Sincerely, Denny Wilson, PGM.



UNION LODGE OF RAM NO.124

Two new Royal Ark Mariners have joined the Union RAM No.124 on the 12 April 2017 in Sunderland. **Bro.Mark Smith and Bro.Ian Wardle** took part in a double Elevation ceremony which both candidates fully enjoyed and found most interesting. WBro.William Carlyon presided as the Worshipful Commander on this occasion. The whole lodge was delighted to be able to welcome both candidates who are wonderful Masons and will now undoubtedly prove to be excellent Royal Ark Mariners as well.

Congratulations to Mark and Ian and welcome aboard!



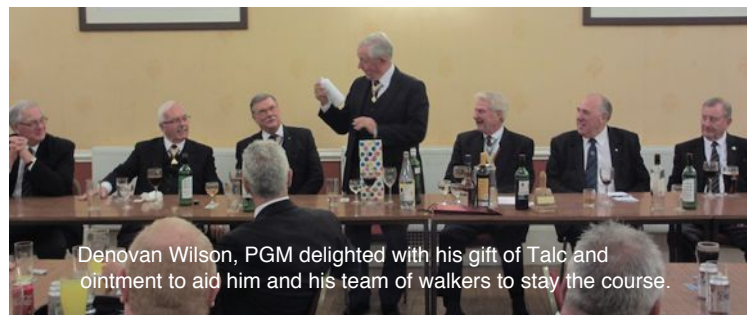


TYNE DOCK MARK LODGE NO.362

TYNE DOCK MARK LODGE No. 362 installed **WBro.Dr. Rakesh Bhalla** as WM on the 15 March 2017 at their meeting in South Shields.

The installing master WBro.Peter Maughan, PPrGStB, conducted an excellent ceremony, ably assisted by members of the lodge which was greatly appreciated and acknowledged by the Representative of the PGM, VWBro.Roy Norman Neville, PGJO, PPrGSW who was accompanied by WBro.Kenneth Peter Dale, PGStB, ProvAGDC.

RYTON LODGE OF MMM NO 1714 on the 7th April 2017 had the pleasure of Advancing **Bro. Richard Salkeld Geddes** as a Mark Master Mason in the presence of many brethren which included the PGM and his Team of Officers. Bro.Geddes enjoyed the excellent ceremony and told the lodge that he could not have picked a better night to come into the Mark as the turn out was fantastic. He is a Master Mason in the Ryton St.Mary Lodge No.6550. Richard loves his Freemasonry and when he tells people that he is a Mason he is very proud of it. The evening continued with a superb festive board. During the speeches after the meal, the WM WBro.James Jordon presented the PGM with a present which he was certain would be of assistance to the Charity Walkers in June.



Denovan Wilson, PGM delighted with his gift of Talc and ointment to aid him and his team of walkers to stay the course.



JARROW LODGE OF MMM NO.701

Bro.James L.Latimer joined the **Jarrow Mark Lodge no.701** on the 20th March 2017. Bro.Latimer is already a Mark Master Mason in the Industry Lodge of MMM No.293 in Gateshead. He shows his continued enthusiasm for the Mark Degree with his support and dedication to increase still further the success of both lodges.



Far better than an Oscar, the WM handing Brian Watson the " Golden Rabbit " for the outstanding theatrical performance of the evening.



28 March 2017 the WCcmdr David Nigel Hanson of the **Bede RAM Lodge 605** welcomes Bro.Philip Heaviside into the Ark with an Elevation ceremony to be proud of. Philip's brother Ian Heaviside is already a member of the Bede RAM Lodge and he was delighted that his brother was able to be at this meeting and witness this excellent ceremony and enjoy such an enjoyable evening together with his "brother".



James Jordon WM and Bro. Richard S.Geddes.



Danny Guy Frank Rankin Charles Scott Denovan K. Wilson

Charles Vickers Scott had a double celebration this day on the 21st March 2017. First of all, Charles has a family party to celebrate his 90th birthday and then he is to be presented with his 60th Certificate by the PGM at his Lodge meeting in the evening. This incredibly active brother has been a Mark Master Mason for 60 years, and he has provided ample proof that going through the Chairs is not the only way to contribute to the development and life of a Lodge or the Province. Bro.Scott and his fellow Founders extended Mark Masonry in Durham by bringing it to Dunston and giving it a fine home. Indeed, Charles Scott's father was the

builder of the Temple in Dunston and Charles remembers helping his dad with some of the building work after he had finished his day at school. This fine and distinguished legacy was recognised with the presentation of the 60 year Certificate on behalf of the Grand Master by the PGM, RWBro.Prof Denovan K.Wilson. He followed this with the announcement of a promotion for Bro.Scott, with immediate effect, to Past Provincial Grand Sword Bearer.

Congratulations Charles from all the brethren and a very happy birthday as well !!



Ambrose Crowley Lodge of MMM No.1269 and RW Bro.D.K.Wilson

Distinguished and long masonic career of Charles Vickers Scott,

In the Craft he was initiated in the Liddell Lodge No.3616 on the 24th March 1949, passed on the 28th April 1949, and raised on the 26th May 1949.

He joined Crowley Lodge No.6901 On the 17th February 1950 and became it's Worshipful Master in 1957.

In 1966, Charles was a founder member of the Old Dunelmian Lodge No. 8100, and in 1999 he was again a founder member of another lodge, the Dunston St.Nicholas No. 9712.

He was honoured with promotion in the Craft to ProvGSupt Wks in 1966, PPJGW in 1991, and PPSGW in 2005.

Charles was Exalted in the Liddell Chapter No.3616 on the 27th March 1956 and Z on the 28th January 1964.

He became a ProvGrand Standard Bearer in 1970 and PPGSN in 1988.

In the Mark Degree Charles was advanced in Industry Mark Lodge No.293 on the 4th March 1957.

In 1962 he was again a founder member of a lodge, this time it was the Ambrose Crowley Lodge No.1269, he became Treasurer of the lodge from 1962 to 1971.

He was appointed Provincial Grand Steward in 1974.

The Ambrose Crowley Lodge celebrated it's 40th Anniversary on the 19th November 2002, and Charles had the great pleasure and honour of being able to give a short history of the Ambrose Crowley Lodge. During the Risings, the then PGM complimented Bro.Scott for his rendition of the lodge history, and for his service to the lodge, he then promoted Bro.Scott with immediate effect to the Rank of Past Provincial Grand Junior Deacon.

In 2007 Bro.Scott was presented by the then PGM with his 50 year certificate and also a Silver Mark Token to mark this special occasion in his long masonic career.

WBro Ted Hold celebrated his **96th** birthday on the 6th April 2017 in the company of several brethren and armed forces colleagues who had arranged to meet Ted at his "local" in Sunderland.

Ted really enjoyed his party with several glasses of wine and brandy properly dispatched without difficulty! Ted is still full of "spirit" despite his advancing years and has lost none of his sense humor.



Happy Birthday Ted from all of us.



D.K. Wilson S.C. Gartside D. Battensby S.R. Ingram

At the recent meeting of **Cestria Lodge of MMM No. 1151** an excellent attendance of 70+ included RWPGM Prof. D.K. Wilson with a Provincial Deputation. The Brethren present enjoyed a full evening of business including the Advancement of **Bro. S. C. Gartside**.

WBro. K. Dinning, PGJD, Prov. G. Chaplain was then invited to dedicate a Collection Plate presented to the Lodge by the widow of WBro. J. Knaggs who died in 2015.



WBro. D. Battensby (WM), on behalf of the Lodge, presented two cheques to RWBro. Wilson in support of the Charity Walk and the Mark Benevolent Fund. At the festive Board members and visitors enjoyed an excellent meal served by the Stewards.

All agreed it was a most enjoyable, convivial Mark evening, very much up to Cestria Mark Lodge standards.

K. Dinning



D.K. Wilson T. Lynn D. Battensby K. Dinning S.R. Ingram

UNITY LODGE OF MMM No.827.

6 April 2017 in Seaham.

An impressive performance by WBro. Alan Gurney as the Installing Master for nearly all of the ceremony saw WBro. Neil Cook installed as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. WBro. Dennis Armstrong gave the explanation of the Keystone jewel and collarettes, WBro. Keith Haddon the address to the WM, WBro. Alan Monkhouse the address to the Wardens, WBro. Alan Ruddell the address to the Overseers, and WBro. Anthony Bird the address to the Brethren.



The representative of the R.W. Provincial Grand Master, WBro. Peter Harrison, ProvGJW congratulates WBro. Neil Cook on attaining the chair. Peter Harrison expressed his sincere thanks to the lodge for the excellence of the ceremony which he felt had been conducted with sincerity, dignity and deep meaning. This most enjoyable evening continued with wonderful hospitality at the festive board and some good humour which is the hallmark of this friendly Degree and the Unity Lodge of MMM No.827.



"TELL ME A STORY"

There is a saying, "That it's good to talk" and that is at the heart of the news initiative launch by the Mark Executive to support the popular Provincial Newsletter composed and circulated by Martin Schoolkate for several years.

To assist in the circulation of the content of Mark / RAM meetings that maybe of interest to brethren that simple phrase has been taken one step further by giving brethren the opportunity to give their account of a meeting or event. It is acknowledged that not everyone has the time or ability to write an article but they could give a verbally explanation.

"Tell me a Story" allows anyone who feels that the event/s within a meeting or an individual they know is worth reporting. So, if you feel you have something that you would like to share through the Provincial Newsletter or website all you have to do is;

Provide photographs - ideally at least 3 - more would be better.

Call the mobile of Michael Wilkinson - 079632 13336

You will be able to give a verbal explanation of your story or details of something or someone you consider would be of interest.

That's it! - you will receive feedback and if appropriate the article will be written and circulated on your behalf.

It is hoped that by offering this option it will add to content and interest of our newsletter. In addition it will further assists Martin in producing his monthly publication.

There are lots of stories to be told so please get involved and "Tell your story!"



Martin Schoolkate, : Retired.

Craft - member of Lord Barnard Lodge No. 2935 Office: PM -Senior Deacon

Mark: Ravensworth Mark No. 718 Office: Secretary Rank: ProvGMO

Durham Lodge of Installed Mark Masters Office: JW

RAM: Union Lodge No.124 - JW

Contact details: mschoolkate@gmail.com Mobile: 07851 427664



Michael James Wilkinson, Occupation: Director. Chairman of DRFC

Craft - member of Surtees Lodge No. 4593 Office: Lodge Secretary Rank: PPJGW

Neville Lodge of Installed Masters No.9441

Provincial Comms Team - Media /Public Display

RAC - Tristram Lodge No. 2415. Rank IPZ

Mark - Hackworth Lodge No.761 Rank: ProvGStwd

RAM -Hackworth No.761 (June 2017)

Durham Lodge of Installed Mark Masters No. 1492

Contact details : email. michael.w@learning4ever.co.uk Mobile: 079632 13336

OBITUARIES

18 March 2017 WBro. Geoffrey Murdoch, PPrGJW, M362, RAM 362, RAMGR.

21 March 2017 - WBro. Donald Allan, PPrGJO, M701.

6 April 2017 - W Bro Henry Freer PPrGJW, M846

9th April 2017 - WBro Donald Jowett PAGDC, PPrGJW M1806, RAM 1806 RAMProvGRank



MARK LODGES / MAY	2017	DAY	TIME	NOTES
G.Washington No.1626	2	Tuesday	7.00pm	Installation is now JUNE each year (Amended Lodge By-Laws)
Spennymoor No.981	4	Thursday	6.45pm	Installation
Hebburn No. 1339	5	Friday	7.00pm	
St.Aidan No.1145	8	Monday	7.00pm	
Bernard Gilpin No.860	9	Tuesday	7.00pm	
Darlington No.250	10	Wednesday	6.45pm	
Auckland No.596	10	Wednesday	6.45pm	Installation at Shildon (Dispensation for date change)
Ferryhil No.1560	11	Thursday	6.45pm	Provincial Visit
Penshaw No.1055	11	Thursday	7.00pm	
D.L.I.M.M.M. No.1492	15	Monday	6.30 pm	
Wouldhave Tyne Dock No.362	17	Wednesday	7.00pm	
Clavering No.896	18	Thursday	7.00pm	
Moseley No.925	19	Friday	7.00pm	
Castle Eden No.930	24	Wednesday	7.00pm	Installation
Dunelm No.356	25	Thursday	6.45pm	Provincial Visit

RAM LODGES / MAY	2017	DAY	TIME	NOTES
Monument RAM No.1055	2	Tuesday	10.30am	Installation
Clavering RAM No.896	4	Thursday	7.00	Installation (Dispensation)
Chief of the Builders No.1806	12	Friday	10.30am	Installation
Castle Eden RAM No.930	12	Friday	7.00	
Industry Ram No.293	16	Tuesday	7.00	
Durham Inst. Cmd. No.492	18	Thursday	7.00	
Rockcliffe RAM No.362	19	Friday	7.00	
Barnard Castle RAM No.778	29	Monday	7.00	

Durham MMM Golf Day.

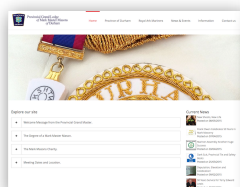
Brethren, with the blessing of the Provincial Grand Master, I am looking to organise

A 'Golf Day' for Durham Mark Masons. The idea is that this will be a 'social' event where people can meet, and mix together in a friendly atmosphere, away from the Lodge Room. Please note that the primary aim is to have fun not to raise money, although I am sure we will have some kind of prizes/raffle on the day.

I am looking initially for names, with contact details, of those Brethren who are interested in such a day out. I hope to be able to arrange it for some time in July or August, at a venue yet to be chosen.

So, if this appeals to you, please contact me to express your interest BEFORE the end of April – giving your name; phone number; and email address if applicable, by either of the methods below:

Allan Gurney (mobile number): 07802 -700423 Or by email: agurney@uwclub.net



You can visit the website on durhammark.org



THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE of
MARK MASTER MASONS of DURHAM

DO YOU WANT TO INCREASE YOUR LODGE MEMBERSHIP

Yes of Course

**The Durham Lodge
of
Installed Mark Masters No. 1492**



**Is Here to Help
We Invite**

Mark Master Mason Lodges to request a presentation
of

"THE FOURTH STEP TO THE MARK".

An open recruitment evening presented by
Workmen from the DLIMM Quarries.

All enquiries to be directed to the Provincial Grand Secretary:

W.Bro. Trevor Lynn, Tel: 01388 766 288

Email: r.trevorlynn@gmail.com



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

**ASSOCIATION OF FRIENDS
OF
SCARBROUGH COURT
Alexandra Way, Cramlington
Northumberland, NE23 6ED
Registered Charity No.1058919.**

Forthcoming Events
10.30am 8th April Easter Fair
10.30am 15th July Summer Fair
10.30am 25th November
Grand Draw and Christmas Fair

Brethren Remember Scarbrough Court
Is a RMB Home for All
Freemasons and Their Dependents
And it is Supported by the
Mark Degree of this Province

Further information please contact P.Kirkbride(Secretary)
E mail pkirkbride53@hotmail.co.uk