

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



GREAT NEWS!

Plans for the 2020 Durham Mark Centenary Dinner announced



We are now in the one hundredth year of Mark Masonry under the banner of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Durham. This year is such a very special one because we will be celebrating not only reaching 100 years, but this also being our first Century.

Centenary celebrations are more than a landmark in time, it is also an opportunity to celebrate what we have done in the past, what we continue to do today and what we will commit to achieving in the future.

To celebrate the occasion the '2020 Durham Mark Centenary Dinner' will be accommodated at The Hardwick Hall, Sedgefield, Co. Durham on Saturday 13th June 2020, commencing 6.30pm for 7.00pm dinner.

This black tie event for guests, wives and partners will be held in the magnificent Coleman Banqueting Suite which can seat a maximum of 250 dining

There will be a drinks reception, followed by a three course meal, cheese board, tea / coffee and each table will have complimentary wine. The evening will include musical entertainment, dancing plus a Durham Grand Mark Raffle. Tickets for the amazing evening will be priced at £30.00 per person.

Residential accommodation at the hotel will be limited and pricing announced in due course.

It is unlikely that many of us will be available to celebrate our second century in 2120, so please put this date in your diary and lookout for further details which will be advertised shortly.



Director of the Centenary Festival
V.W.Bro. Frank A. Rankin, PGMO, PDPGM

'Lets get ready to Party!' - but with a real purpose.

The fantastic news from the Durham Mark Benevolence Committee, is that it will match the Centenary Fund total up to maximum of £30.000. The total currently stands in excess of £28.000. It is hoped that it will reach £30.000. It would mean that some £60.000 could be made available for worthy, local organisations whose aims are to help, encourage or support children and young persons. It is the brethren of Mark Masonry, you and your Lodge that will have the opportunity to put forward suggested recipients.

The majority of Mark Lodges and brethren are embracing the opportunities to celebrate our Centenary year by contributing to this most worthy of causes. The aim is to help those less fortunate than ourselves and those who provide that help to others, particularly children / young persons. It's true to say that every little helps, so please encourage your lodge and brethren to support our collective aim.

Grand Mark Raffle (appeal)

The '2020 Durham Mark Centenary Dinner' planning includes a 'Durham Grand Mark Raffle'. This is an easy way to get involved by simply donating a bottle of spirit. If every Mark Lodge and Royal Ark Mariner Lodge made such a donation it would allow those items to raise in excess of a grand in monetary terms that evening.

The purpose of our endeavours is for some sixty organisations to receive donations from the Mark Master Masons of Durham. Donations will help the respective causes for hundreds of children and young persons in our local communities.



DURHAM MARK MASTER MASONS



HARDWICK HALL
HOTEL

CENTENARY DINNER

SATURDAY 13th June 2020

At

**Hardwick Hall Hotel
Sedgefield**

**Champagne reception
4 course dinner with wine
Entertainment & Grand Raffle**

Tickets £30pp

Reception: 6.15pm, for Dining at: 7.00pm

Carriages: Midnight

To Book your place contact A. J. Clark,

T: 07429686175

E: ajc5807@gmail.com



Clavering Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners No. 896 held their meeting in Gateshead, on Thursday 22 August, at which the brethren were presented with an excellent talk for any Royal Ark Mariner by W.Bro. Gil Matheson, the subject of which was entitled ‘Noah and the Ark’.

Gil Matheson will be celebrating his 92 birthday soon but this ‘ancient Mariner’ can still take command of the lectern with complete confidence and deliver his talk with a firm hold on his subject matter no matter how intricate or ancient. The research into Noah and the Ark has

fascinated many scholars from all over the globe right up to the present day and with modern technology enabling researches to look again for any clues or evidence to prove the ancient writings from ages past.

On Friday 9th August over 150 young people, age 4-18, from all across the Northeast came together to put on a show with a purpose. That was to raise funds for TLC Teddies. The show, **Dance Atlantic**, took place at the prestigious and historic Sunderland Empire Theatre.

The idea came from the producer Karen Smith, wife of Mark Smith. This is the 10th fundraising show she has produced after the initial success with the show for for the 2012 festival. She had seen the good work done by TLC Teddies and loves the idea of children helping children.



Dance Atlantic

Twenty seven Teddies were adorned with exclusive t- shirts with the show logo and were bought as good luck gifts for some of the performers, on the evening of the show the TLC Teddies team came along and re-homed a further 57 Teddies, along with the sale of the programs and pin badges a fantastic amount was raised. Further to this the children, their friends and families are now more aware of this fantastic project.



A warm welcome at Castle Eden Royal Ark Mariner Lodge No.930

On a hot summer evening on Tuesday 16th July the members of Castle Eden Royal Ark Mariner Lodge No 930 welcomed fifteen visitors to their Lodge Meeting which included the Assistant PGM, W.Bro. Ronald Trevor Lynn.

Although few in number the Lodge members are showing a remarkable team spirit and a determination to succeed in their quest for new members to boost their ranks.

Following the Lodge Meeting the brethren enjoyed a convivial Festive Board during which the usual Masonic Toasts were honoured.

Pictured is W.Bro. Alan Ruddell, Worshipful Commander with W.Bro. Ronald Trevor Lynn, Assistant PGM.

The village of Staindrop on a lovely summers evening is a wonderful destination for any Mark Master Mason. Monday the 5th August 2019 the **Staindrop Lodge of Mark Master Masons No.1274** were gathered in the Masonic Hall situated on the village green, ready to welcome all the brethren who had made the journey to take part in an excellent masonic meeting. The Worshipful Master, W.Bro. M.P. Lambird, PPGMO, was particularly delighted to acknowledge the presence of no less than eight Mark Grand Lodge Officers and he gave them and all his visiting brethren a very warm welcome to the lodge. During the meeting the brethren were delighted to congratulate with warm applause W.Bro. Thomas Neil Hugill, on his appointment at the Mark AGM, to an active rank as Grand Junior Overseer. A great honour for him and the Staindrop Mark Lodge. An excellent festive board followed and afterwards the brethren set off for home with the last remnants of daylight on this summers evening illuminating the beautiful village green.



The Durham Mark Benevolent Fund has been touched by the work of the North East War Memorials Project and is delighted to provide a little assistance to its work.

In the peaceful surroundings of the Parish Church of St Mary and St Cuthbert, Chester-le-Street, a presentation of £500 was made by the Province of Durham Mark Benevolent Fund to the North East War Memorials Project.

In its application the group revealed that they had been successful in identifying an incredible number of almost 5,000 war memorials in our area. In his address, Roy Neville commented that there would be very few families in the North East who would not have an interest in this project as a part of their ancestry. In fact, enquiries and visits to their website www.newmp.org.uk, amounted to over 61,000 in 2018 alone, coming from all over the world and covering wars and battles stretching as far back as the Battle of Neville's Cross in 1346 within sight of Durham Cathedral.



Pictured making the presentation are Roy Neville, Provincial Grand Charity Steward, accompanied by Assistant Provincial Grand Master, Trevor Lynn, and Mrs Dorothy Hall, Secretary of the Project, accompanied by Alan Hall, Project Treasurer, and John Dixon, Lead Researcher.





CASTLE EDEN LODGE OF MMM No.930
 Castle Eden Masonic Hall,
 Wednesday 24 July 2019.

Summer has arrived and on this lovely evening the temperature was warm, very WARM!

This was echoed by the warmth of the welcome extended to the visiting brethren to the Castle Eden Mark Lodge No. 930 on this day.

The lodge was the host for the Provincial Grand Master and a deputation of Provincial Officers and also a Fraternal visit by the Ravensworth Lodge of MMM No.718.

The lodge room soon filled up to capacity with nearly every seat taken and brethren struggled to keep cool with so many bodies in the room.

With so many present, the procession by the PGM into the lodge room was even more impressive and this was acknowledged with spontaneous applause by everyone there.

At the festive board the PGM, RW.Bro. Prof. Denovan K. Wilson mentioned that this was only the

second time he had received a round of applause when walking down the lodge room on a Provincial visit.

He thanked the brethren for this and feels it showed how much the members enjoyed their masonry. He also mentioned that the sight of a full car park took him back so many years to how things used to be and tonight it proved to be so again with an excellent meeting in the company of so many brethren. The fact that all the chairs were occupied by Castle Eden brethren with several newer members active on the floor was acknowledged by the PGM and he feels it bodes well for the future of the lodge which is wonderful to see.

During the meeting the work of the lodge was an explanation of the Mark Tracing Board which was ably presented and beautifully illustrated with large clear images on the screen. The presenters were Bro. Nigel Fallow, Bro. Tony Armstrong, Bro. Gordon Thornton, and W.Bro. Alan Reardon. The brethren acknowledged them with very warm applause and personal thanks from the Worshipful Master



W.Bro. Steven G. Hicks.

The Worshipful Master also took the opportunity to congratulate his son, who is the Inner Guard, on his marriage at the weekend and the brethren joined him in congratulations with applause.

An incredibly warm evening concluded in good cheer and harmony and brethren were glad to enjoy the cool evening breeze in the car park before setting off for home.

OBITUARIES

Bro. Alan George Nichols - D.O.B. 30/04/1953 - M:362 RAM: 362 - Wouldhave T.D - D: 31/07/2019

W. Bro. Frank Bilton, PPrGStwd. - D.O.B. 27/04/1933 - M:356 - Dunelm - D: 02/08/2019

W. Bro. Clifford Graham Jellicoe, PGStwd. - D.O.B. 26/03/1927 - 1274 - Staindrop - D: 30/08/2019



Mark & RAM Provincial Lodge of Instruction

The Provincial Lodge of Instruction was founded in 2006 with the aim of portraying a Ceremony of Advancement or Elevation in accordance with the most recent edition of the Mark & Royal Ark Mariner Rituals.

As members of both the Mark & Royal Ark Mariner Degrees we owe it to every Candidate for Membership to receive them into our orders with a dignified and eloquent ceremony.

In addition to portraying a Ceremony of Advancement or Elevation, the Lodge of Instruction, when requested, can also provide competent members to those Lodges which may be short of Officers. The Lodge of Instruction gives each and every member the opportunity of partaking in our ceremonies.

Each year in the Autumn a Lodge of Instruction Festival is held, when all members of Mark and Royal Ark Mariner Lodges in the Province are invited to attend. The format for the 2019 Festival, which will be held at Shiney Row Masonic Hall on Tuesday 29th October, is to demonstrate a Ceremony of Advancement, which will be followed by a three course dinner.

The continued success of the Lodge of Instruction Festival depends on your support.

Trevor Lynn, Lodge of Instruction

Preceptor.

SEPTEMBER - MARK	2019	DAY	TIME	NOTES
Staindrop no. 1274	2	Monday	6.45	
G. Washington no.1626	3	Tuesday	7.00	
Spennymoor no.981	5	Thursday	6.45	
Darlington no. 250	11	Wednesday	6.45	
Penshaw no.1055	12	Thursday	7.00	
Ferryhill no. 1560	12	Thursday	6.45	Installation
Ryton no. 1714	13	Friday	7.00	Installation
Ernest Dixon no. 1015	17	Tuesday	6.30	Installation
W.Tyne Dock no. 362	18	Wednesday	7.00	Provincial Visit / Talk " The Keystone" by K.U.Robson
Auckland no. 596	18	Wednesday	6.45	
Stanhope no. 1551	23	Monday	7.00	
Eclectic no. 39	24	Tuesday	7.00	
Ravensworth no. 718	25	Wednesday	7.00	Installation
Castle Eden No.930	25	Wednesday	7.00	
Dunelm no. 356	26	Thursday	6.45	
St.Andrew's no. 854	26	Thursday	6.45	Installation

SEPTEMBER - RAM	2019	DAY	TIME	NOTES
Monument no. 1055	3	Tuesday	10.30	
Ryton no.1714	4	Wednesday	7.00	
Stanhope no.1551	6	Friday	7.00	Installation
Union no. 124	11	Wednesday	7.00	Installation
Bernard Gilpin no. 860	16	Monday	7.00	Installation
Stockton-on-Tees no.122	17	Tuesday	7.00	Prov.Visit / 100 Cenary Warrant / Talk " History of the Lodge " by K.P.Dale.
Industry no. 293	17	Tuesday	7.00	Installation
Rockcliffe no. 362	20	Friday	7.00	
Moseley no. 925		Monday	7.00	Installation
Spennymoor no. 981	23	Monday	6.45	
Bede no. 605	24	Tuesday	7.00	Installation



Durham Mark Lodge Of Instruction Festival

2019

To be held at The Masonic Hall, Station Road
Shiney Row DH4 7LQ

On Tuesday 29th October 2019

Start time 6.30pm.

"The Lodge of Instruction Team will Demonstrate a Ceremony of Advancement"

"Festival Banquet at 8pm Approx."

Menu

BROTH

STEAK PIE WITH SEASONAL VEGETABLES

LARGE BOWL TRIFLE

Tickets £14.00 each

Available from

W.Bro. R.S. Hodgson, at raymond.hodgson@talktalk.net

W.Bro. R.T. Lynn, at rtrevorlynn@gmail.com

W.Bro. D. Quickmire at doug@quickmire.co.uk

W.Bro. J. Awdas, at jawdas@aol.com

W.Bro. R. Smart, at markroyston761@gmail.com

W.Bro. J.R. Hogg, at durhammarkloi@gmail.com

Closing date for ticket application **Friday 18th October 2019**