

# 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



*Pictured above are:- W. Bro. David Hanson, Deputy PGM, W. Bro. John Scott, W. Bro. George Paylor, R.W. Bro. Den Wilson, PGM, W. Bro. Len Young, W. Bro. John Arthur and W. Bro. Trevor Lynn, Assistant PGM.*

### FOUR DURHAM BRETHREN HONOURED WITH MARK GRAND RANK

A contingent of 48 Durham Mark Masons attended Mark Grand Lodge in London on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June to witness the appointment of four Durham Brethren to Mark Grand Rank by the Grand Master, M.W. Bro. HRH Prince Michael of Kent.

W. Bros. John Arthur, George Paylor and Len Young were appointed to PAGDC, and W. Bro. John Scott to PGStB in front of a packed Mark Masons Hall.

Congratulations are extended to all the above, with the wish that they have good health to enjoy their preferment, and the determination to continue to work hard for the betterment of the Order.



BRETHREN FROM THE DURHAM PROVINCE AT MARK GRAND LODGE IN LONDON 11 JUNE 2019.



**Provincial Appointments 2019  
Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Durham**

**ACTIVE RANKS**

Deputy Provincial Grand Master: W Bro David Nigel Hanson, PAGDC  
Assistant Provincial Grand Master: W Bro Ronald Trevor Lynn, PAGDC  
Director of Centenary Festival: V W Bro Frank Alexander Rankin, PGMO, PDPGM

OFFICE	NAME	LODGE
Grand Senior Warden	Michael James Wilkinson PPrGJO	Hackworth
Grand Junior Warden	Robert John Donmall PPrGJO	Penshaw
Grand Master Overseer	David Colin Williamson	St. Thomas
Grand Senior Overseer	Thomas Neil Huggill	Staindrop
Grand Junior Overseer	Neil Kevin Garrett	Moseley
Grand Chaplain	Keith Dinning PGJO	Ferryhill
Grand Treasurer	Graham John Mitchinson PGJD	Percy
Grand Registrar	Malcolm Donald Ormiston PPrGStwd	Ryton
Grand Secretary	Allan Gurney PGStwd	Unity
Grand Director of Ceremonies	Michael Davis PGJD	Bede
Grand Almoner	Keith Liddell PGSD	Ambrose Crowley
Grand Charity Steward	Roy Norman Neville PGJO	Ernest Dixon
Grand Inspector of Works	Thomas Barr Jack	George Washington
Grand Sword Bearer	David Dorward ProvGSwdB	Ernest Dixon
Deputy Grand Chaplain	Philip Alan Carter PPrGJW	St. Andrew's
Deputy Grand Secretary	Graham Wharton PPrGJO	Steadfast
Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies	Gary Quinn PGStwd	Ravensworth
Grand Senior Deacon	Alan Dargue PPrGJD	Hackworth
	Brian Smith PPrGJD	Bernard Gilpin
	Ronald Woods PPrGJD	Ferryhill
Grand Junior Deacon	Ross Patrick Rielly	William Todd
	Raymond William Plumb	St. Aidan
	Kenneth Meldrum Thompson	Ambrose Crowley
Assistant Grand Chaplain	Rev. Peter William Adamson PPrGJO	Ferryhill
Assistant Grand Secretary	Douglas Quickmire PGJD	Walton
Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies	Sydney James Watson PPrGSO	Ryton
	Kenneth Moore PPrGJO	Hackworth
	Kenneth Urquhart Robson PAGDC	Wouldhave TD
	David John Anderson	Cestria
Grand Organist	Barry Tallentire ProvGOrg	Wouldhave TD
Grand Standard Bearer	Ivan Jewell	Elevation
Assistant Grand Standard Bearer	David Battensby PPrGStwd	Cestria
Grand Inner Guard	Daniel McDermott	Industry
Grand Steward	Joseph William Pearson Dodson	Dunelm
	John Michael Burdess	Barnard Castle
	William James Bell	St. Andrews
	Colin George Richardson	Moseley
Grand Tyler	John Bernard Martin Schoolkate PPrGJW	Ravensworth

**Provincial Appointments 2019  
Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Durham**

**PROMOTIONS**

OFFICE	NAME	LODGE
Grand Senior Warden	John Nicholson PPrGJW	Ernest Dixon
Grand Junior Warden	Brian Hays PPrGSD	Eclectic
	Simon Andrew Radonichich PPrGJO	Darlington
	Joseph Archer Tyrer PPrGJO	Dunelm
	Barry Tallentire ProvGOrg	Wouldhave TD
	Michael Graham Jnr. PPrGJO	Jarrow
	Alan Ruddell PPrGSO	Unity
	Jack Blackburn PPrGMO	Elevation
Grand Master Overseer	James Lightfoot PPrGReg	Barnard Castle
	Walter Cooper PPrGSO	Moseley
	John Barnett PPrGReg	Walton
	Ian Keith Groves PPrGJO	Walton
Grand Senior Overseer	John Bainbridge Finlay PPrGSwdB	Barnard Castle
Grand Junior Overseer	Colin Raine PPrGStwd	Hackworth
	Robert Victor McAvoy PPrGSwdB	Ernest Dixon
	Jerome Richard Hogg PPrGStwd	Cestria
	Malcolm Donald Ormiston PPrGStwd	Ryton
Grand Registrar	Craig Leonard Murphy PPrGSD	Percy
	Arthur Hopgood PPrGJD	Ferryhill
Grand Sword Bearer	Michael Jordan PPrAGSwdB	Dunelm
	Harry Frederick Smith PPrGJD	Jarrow
	Alvin Leigh Kipling PPrGIG	Auckland
	Terry Ward PPrGStdB	William Todd
Grand Junior Deacon	Alan William Stapleton PPrGStdB	Hackworth

**Provincial Appointments 2019  
Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Durham**

**PAST RANKS**

OFFICE	NAME	LODGE
Grand Junior Overseer	Mark David Coates	Eclectic
	Raymond Oxley	St. Andrew's
Grand Sword Bearer	Joseph Higginbottom	Penshaw
Grand Senior Deacon	John David Lonsdale PPrGSD (Northumberland)	Walton
Grand Junior Deacon	James William Whatcott	Bernard Gilpin
Grand Assistant Director of Ceremonies	Richard Anthony Howard	Hebburn

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



Held their regular meeting on the 20th May 2019 in Birtley at which the lodge welcomed a very special guest in the person of VWBro. Dr. Rod Taylor, PGJO,PAPGM(W.Yorks). He had been invited by the brethren of the lodge to give an illustrated lecture with the intriguing title ' The first Royal Mark Mason'.

After the normal business of the lodge had been concluded our special guest speaker was invited to commence his lecture. Before starting however the electronic gear had to be situated in its right place to allow the use of the illustrations in the lecture.

With the brethren present and eager to learn what was in store the presentation commenced when VWBro. Taylor took his place next to the lectern.

Prince Leopold, tonights subject of the talk, was born some 160 years ago and he was the eighth child and youngest son of Queen Victoria. His birth was also the first time when chloroform was used as an anaesthetic in childbirth, recently developed by Professor James Young Simpson.

Leopold's early life was difficult and dangerous because he had inherited the disease haemophilia from his mother. He is also said to have suffered from mild epilepsy and so was a delicate child. Even at an early age it was evident that Leopold possessed intellectual abilities as shown by a very thoughtful mind, high aims and remarkable acquirements in languages, music and writing.

However his health was a constant worry and he suffered many bleeds which left him in a lot of pain. His mother from the start was extremely protective of him and restricted Leopold in many ways throughout his early years.

Leopold entered Oxford University in 1872 and this was his happiest time away from his mothers strictures. He became president of the Oxford University Chess Club and attained an honorary doctorate in civil law. He travelled in Europe, Canada and the USA.

Because of his haemophilia he was unable to pursue a military career and instead became a patron of the arts and literature and served as his mothers unofficial secretary.

Leopold did however have an honorary association with the 72nd Regiment, Duke of Albany's Own Highlanders.

Prince Leopold was an active Freemason, initiated in the Apollo University Lodge no.357, Oxford, whilst resident at Christ Church. His proposer was his brother Albert Edward, Prince of Wales who was the Worshipful Master at the time. Leopold became Master of the Lodge from 1876 - 1877, and he became the Provincial Grand Master for Oxfordshire till his death.

**Apollo University Lodge** No 357 is a Masonic Lodge based at the University of Oxford aimed at past and present members of the university. It was consecrated in 1819, and its members have met continuously since then. Membership of the lodge is restricted to those who have matriculated as members of the University of Oxford.

The Lodge (together with the parallel Isaac Newton University Lodge in Cambridge University) has traditionally enjoyed certain privileges, including the right to initiate matriculated members of the University regardless of their age (other Lodges in England and Wales are restricted to candidates aged 21 or older, except by special permission), and the right to initiate candidates in large groups (other lodges are restricted to a maximum of two candidates at a time, except by special permission). In 2005 the Universities Scheme was established, inspired by the long success of Apollo University Lodge and Isaac Newton University Lodge, and now brings similar privileges to more than seventy university masonic lodges in universities across England and Wales.



VWBro. Rod Taylor after this wonderful presentation so richly illustrated and so brilliantly delivered which had completely captured the full attention of the brethren throughout, received a sincere thanks from the SW Master Elect, VWBro. Stuart A.R.Ingram,PGJO,PAPGM and this was acknowledged with warm applause from the brethren.

At the festive board the WM presented VWBro. Taylor with a check for £ 200 for the MBF of West Yorkshire, which was gratefully received by VWBro.

Taylor and he thanked the lodge for their wonderful generosity and kind attention they had given to his lecture.





**WALTON LODGE OF MMM NO. 1106**

On a warm summer evening in Crook, the Brethren of Walton Mark Lodge were ready for a very busy meeting at which not only a Provincial Team Deputation accompanying the PGM attended but at which also a new candidate was Advanced as a Mark Master Mason. Also welcomed into the lodge were the WM, W.Bro. L.D. Puchala and brethren from the Dunelm Lodge of MMM No.356. A packed lodge room witnessed an excellent ceremony of Advancement for Bro. Michael McLaren.

After the meeting a welcome drink preceded the festive board which was excellent. This meeting was the first one for the new acting Officers of the Provincial Team and the Senior Warden, W.Bro. Michael Wilkinson was delighted to deliver his first address as Grand Senior Warden. A wonderful evening at Walton Mark Lodge concluded in harmony and summer warmth.



**UNITY LODGE OF MMM NO. 827**

On the 6th, June 2019 in Seaham, on a glorious sunny evening with a beautiful view of the sea and coastline, the Brethren of the Unity Lodge no. 827 gathered for their meeting in the Seaham Masonic Hall. They had a special occasion to look forward to, apart from getting the keys to enable entry into the Hall, which did arrive, thankfully. No, the real reason was the happy occasion of being able to welcome a

joining member to the Unity Lodge in the person of W.Bro. Graeme William Telford, he is also a member of the Castle Eden Lodge of MMM No. 930.

W.Bro. Telford was proposed by the WM, W.Bro. Joe Higginbottom and seconded by W.Bro. Alan Ruddell, PPGSO. Both brethren were delighted to find the ballot successful and they together with all the brethren present welcomed Graeme into the lodge as a joining member.

W.Bro. Telford thanked the brethren for accepting him as a member and told them how much he appreciated this warm and friendly lodge and the wonderful Masonic Hall where they meet. He looks forward to being active in the lodge and will do his very best for the lodge.

During the meeting the Worshipful Master of Unity Lodge rose and read out a moving tribute to the 75th D-Day Anniversary of the Normandy landings. The brethren stood to attention in remembrance of the fallen and in particular those fellow brethren who served their country on that day.



Nick Howel

**St.Lawrence Lodge of Mark Master Masons No.1093,**

have again installed W.Bro.Gary Douglass Taylor as the Worshipful Master for a second year. The ceremony was witnessed by the Representative of the PGM , W.Bro. Jeffrey Awdas and his D of C, W.Bro. Kenneth Peter Dale. The Lodge Secretary was unable to be at the meeting as he had been in hospital for hart surgery and is now at home recovering. The brethren send their best wishes to Tom. The lodge brethren rallied round however to make this installation meeting a success and the WM gave a special mention of the great work and enthusiasm which his Senior and Junior Wardens, Nick Howel and Andrew Maddison had shown in setting up the Temple and dining room. The tables were beautifully laid out with many wonderful flower displays which had been specially created by

Rachael Howel, the wife of the Senior Warden Bro. Nick Howel.

Grateful thanks were extended to Rachael for her fantastic contribution in making the festive board extra special.



**“ More Mark Support for St John Ambulance “**

To show our gratitude for their attendance at the Mark Annual Meeting on June 26<sup>th</sup>, a cheque for £100 was presented to two of the three St. John Ambulance personnel on duty for the event. In addition, and further to a promise made at the handing over of the new Treatment Centre by the Mark Benevolent Fund 2 years ago, a cheque for £500 was presented to assist with its running costs.

Photographer W.Bro. David Battensby was on hand to record the presentation of the cheques by the Chairman of the Durham Mark Benevolent Fund, W. Bro. David Hanson, accompanied by Treasurer, V.W. Bro. Roy Neville.

**The George Washington Lodge of MMM no. 1626**

W.Bro. Neil A. Marshall was again installed as the Worshipful Master of the G.Washington Lodge no.1626 for an third time no less. Neil was delighted to do so to assist the lodge through a time of change of location from Washington to Birtley and also a reduction to three meetings a year.

A bright moment for the lodge this evening was the Advancement of Bro. David Cunningham. He became a Mason in 2015 and now fulfilled his wish to be a Mark Master Mason for which he thanked the brethren of G.Washington for letting him join the lodge. He looks forward to being a part in a brighter future for the lodge.



## 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 29<sup>th</sup> 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.



### 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

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STEAK PIE WITH SEASONAL VEGETABLES

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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 r.trevorlynn@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**



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

11 Marwell Drive, The Glade,  
Usworth Hall, Washington,  
Tyne and Wear, NE37 3LH.

Tel: 0191-4166764

Email: j.stubbings@talktalk.net

**Lots of Regalia in stock, please ring or call in to see what is available.**

**Brethren can support the Durham 2020 Centenary Festival by purchasing this special badge which can be supplied by WBro.Graham Wharton on 07855815958 and VWBro.Frank Rankin.**



JULY / MARK	2019	DAY	TIME	NOTES
Walton no.1106	1	Monday	6.30	Provincial Visit
Durham L. of P.G.Stewards no.1820	3	Wednesday	7.00	
Spennymoor no. 981	4	Thursday	6.45	
Castle Eden no. 930	24	Wednesday	7.00	Provincial Visit
AUGUST / MARK	2019	DAY	TIME	NOTES
Staindrop no. 1274	5	Monday	6.45	

JULY / RAM	2019	DAY	TIME	NOTES
St. Andrews RAM no. 854	11	Thursday	6.45	
Castle Eden RAM no. 930	16	Tuesday	7.00	
Barnard Castle RAM no. 778	29	Monday	7.00	
AUGUST / RAM	2019	DAY	TIME	NOTES
Clavering RAM no. 896	22	Thursday	7.00	

**OBITUARIES**

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

