



A busy Scarlet Cord day in Surrey



Thursday the 16th of July 2026 was a busy day for the Scarlet Cord Companions of Surrey. The day started with the Installation meeting of Surrey Consistory No 4TI where Dist.Comp. Leslie Grout installed Em.Comp. Bob Hancock as President. This was followed by the Annual Meeting of the Provincial Grand Senatus of Surrey.

The day before the meetings Richard, Len and Tommo kindly assisted me in getting the Temples ready for the Meeting.

The Surrey 4TI meeting was held in the Thomas Turner Temple and the Annual Meeting was in the George Cowan Temple.



The Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, his Deputy, ADC, and the team were busy rehearsing in the Temple while the rest of us were upstairs enjoying coffee and bacon butties.

Prior to the meeting our Provincial Grand Summus, R.Dist.Comp. Nigel Thomson, individually welcomed all our guests, and Companions of the Province.

Everyone received a warm welcome on arrival from Dist.Comp. Derek Williamson who kindly manned the welcome desk.



A big thank you to Robbie and Faye for the coffee and bacon sandwiches, which always go down well.





It was good to see so many Provincial Grand Summi from other Provinces who attended to support our Provincial Grand Summus.

Including R.Dist.Comp. Phil Clare, the Provincial Grand Summus for Kent, who loves taking selfies.....





A big thank you to Dist.Comp. Dr. Robert Scott who kindly played the organ for us. His music really enhanced the meeting.

By 11.00 the Companions were all gathered in the Temple. They were called to Order by the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, Dist.Comp. Ian Bloodworth, to receive the Provincial Grand Summi and other Right Distinguished Companions.



The next procession was the Past Provincial Grand Summus of the Province of Surrey, R.Dist.Comp. Michael F Barnes, Grand Regent Vicarius. The Provincial Grand Summus then entered the Temple preceded by the Provincial Sword Bearer and followed by the Provincial Banner Bearer.

Provincial Grand Senatus was opened in due form and the Provincial Grand Summus was saluted with seven under direction of the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies. The other Right Distinguished Companions were saluted with seven under the direction of the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies and R.Dist.Comp. Stephen N White, Provincial Grand Summus for Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, and Wiltshire responded appropriately.

The Provincial Grand Summus welcomed the Honoured Guests from other Provinces, as well as the Heads of Surrey Orders and their Executive.

The Provincial Grand Summus thanked Dist.Comp. Chris Eley for his support as Deputy Provincial Grand Summus over the past two years and said he had much pleasure in re-appointing him as Deputy Provincial Grand Summus. He was then saluted with five and Dist.Comp. Chris responded accordingly.

The Provincial Grand Summus thanked Dist.Comp. Ian Clark for his support as Assistant Provincial Grand Summus over the past year and said he had much pleasure in re-appointing him as Assistant Provincial Grand Summus. He was then saluted with five and Dist.Comp. Ian responded accordingly.

The Provincial Officers for 2026 were then appointed and invested.

In his Address, the Provincial Grand Summus greeted all those attending with warmth and a hearty welcome and said how pleased he was to see so many Companions, and guests from other Provinces and Orders attending. He thanked the Companions from other Provinces for their kind hospitality whenever he attended their Provincial meetings. R.Dist.Comp. Nigel ended by thanking all those who worked so hard and contributed to the success of the meeting.

Provincial Grand Senatus was closed, and we retired for refreshments with our many guests. We were honoured with the presence of sixteen guests from other Provinces, including eight Provincial Grand Summi.





While our guests were getting together in the bar a small team ensured the Temple was rearranged in time for a Craft meeting later that day. Thanks to Faye and the team for all their help.



Suitably refreshed, the Companions of the Provincial Grand Senatus of Surrey sat down to a most convivial luncheon with their many guests, some who had travelled some distance to be with us today





A big thank you to Comp. Richard Wileman and the Tooting Boys for coming in the previous day to set everything up for the meetings, Dist.Comp. Derek Williamson for manning the welcome desk, and Robbie Dobbie and all the staff at Surbiton Masonic Hall for looking after us so well. We received many kind comments about the meal and the service at Glenmore House.

Provincial Grand Summus

Address to Provincial Grand Senatus

A very warm welcome to you all and thank you for attending today, especially those who have travelled long distances to be here.

I have already thanked my Provincial Officers appointed last year for their support during the year. However, we move forward and today I have appointed and promoted a number of members to serve in the coming year. Whilst it is a reward for what you have contributed to the Order in Surrey in the past, it is also an earnest wish that you will work harder in promoting the Scarlet Cord to others in the future, and to go out as a member of the Provincial Team on Official Visits to our Consistories, when you are able.

I will be working with our Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler, Very Dist Comp Ian Smith, to see how we can promote both Orders.

During the last year we have brought three new members into the Scarlet Cord, and I am pleased to see one of them is here and I would ask the Provincial Director of Ceremonies to conduct Companion Edwin Essel to me so I may welcome him personally and present him with a lapel pin.

If any of the more junior Companions would like to join our Tzaddikim, please let me know. It will show your interest in the Scarlet Cord and be an opportunity to go out on the Official Visits to our Consistories to meet our other Surrey members.

Once again, I urge everyone to try to learn the ritual of their respective offices, so that the candidate is impressed by our Order, especially when Admitted to the First Grade. If you can't learn it make sure you have read it over and over previously, until you fully understand what you are going to say.

This includes the Provincial Officers taking part in the Preparation Ceremony, which this year will be in the afternoon of Thursday the 22nd of October at Guildford. Invitations to the prospective candidates will go out soon.

On Thursday the 7th of May, three of our Companions were appointed to Grand Rank. Dist. Comp. Simon McCarthy, our Past Assistant Provincial Grand Summus, to Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies; Dist. Comp. David Willmott to Past Grand Sword Bearer; and Dist. Comp. Alastair Mackenzie to Past Grand Standard Bearer. Also, Dist. Comp. John Norton-Doyle was promoted to Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies.

The previous day at Mark Masons' Hall, Dist. Comp. Len Hillier received his 5th Grade and five members their 4th Grades; Dist. Comps. Alastair Richardson, Barrie Selway, James Smith, Robert Tuthill, and Derek Williamson. Congratulations to you all. These grades are not given out lightly; they are earned and so are well deserved.

Thank you, to the team who prepared the room for our meeting today - not least, my Deputy for his unstinting help. I must not forget the staff here at Surbiton for looking after us today.

That's enough from me. It will soon be time to be called from labour to refreshment – but the wisest of us knows not how soon.

Enjoy your Scarlet Cord Masonry, and the summer weather. Until we meet again, may the God of our Fathers go with you all.

Nigel

R.Dist.Comp. Nigel Thomson
Provincial Grand Summus
16 July 2026



Surrey Consistory 4TI Installation Meeting

The Installation meeting of the Surrey Consistory No 4TI was held in the morning of the 16th of July prior to the Provincial Grand Senatus of Surrey Annual Meeting.



The President, Dist.Comp. Leslie Grout, welcomed all the Companions, especially R.Dist.Comp. Mik Barnes, Grand Regent Vicarius, our Past Provincial Grand Summus, who was saluted with seven under the direction of the Director of Ceremonies.

The President displayed the Warrant and opened the Consistory in the First Grade of the Order in due form at 9 am and the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

A ballot was taken for a re-joining member, E.Comp. Wally Maynard. This proved in his favour and E.Comp. Wally was welcomed back into the Consistory.

Immediately afterwards Dist.Comp. Wally was elected as our Treasurer. Comp. President thanked E.Comp. David Willmott for all his hard work over the years as our Treasurer.



The main item on the agenda was to install Em.Comp. Bob Hancock as President. This was done by Dist.Comp. Leslie Grout in an excellent manner. The Officers for 2026-27 were then appointed and invested.



After the Officers had been appointed and invested, the Consistory was closed, and we retired to have coffee and prepare for the meeting of Provincial Grand Senatus to follow.

45 minutes from opening to closing – is that a record?



Among the Companions present at the meeting were members of the Red Cross of Constantine Sepulchre Guard, past and present, who, when challenged, displayed their Challenge Tokens.



Provincial Grand Senatus of Surrey Executive Visits 2026-2027

Date		Consistory	Venue	Ceremony	Executive Visit By
17 September 2026	Thursday	Hill of Zion 52TI	Croydon		
24 September 2026	Tuesday	Warlingham 134	Nutfield		
22 October 2026	Thursday	Guildford 53TI	Guildford	Installation and Preparation Ceremony	Ian Clark
27 January 2027	Wednesday	Hill of Zion 52TI	Croydon		
24 February 2027	Wednesday - am	Surrey 4TI	Surbiton		Nigel Thomson
31 March 2027	Tuesday	Warlingham 134	Nutfield	Installation	Ian Clark
16 April 2027	Friday	Hill of Zion 52TI	Croydon	Installation	Chris Eley
06 May 2027	Friday	Grand Senatus	Mark Masons Hall	Annual Meeting	
13 May 2027	Thursday - am	Guildford 53TI	Guildford		
15 July 2027	Thursday - am	Surrey 4TI	Surbiton	Installation	
15 July 2027	Thursday - am	Provincial Grand Senatus	Surbiton	Annual Meeting	