



A New Year Message from our District Grand Prefect

Welcome to the 11th edition of the Surrey Gridiron and 2022 which, as we are all aware, is a very important year in the Mark Province of Surrey.

2021 has proved to be a more difficult year than any of us would have expected however, once we were back to meetings again from September, I was delighted to see the number of Councils that were bringing new members into our lovely Order. I have tried to keep to my personal promise to attend any Council that has a Candidate to be able to personally welcome them into our Order and to give them their own napkin to wear at Mark Festive Boards and tell others about our Order.

To this end I am very grateful to W.Bro. Chris Eley, not only for the work he has done over the past year in producing this publication, but for taking photos at Mark festive boards of all of us wearing our napkins. Thanks to all of you who remembered to bring along your napkins, as well as Chris who always seems to carry spare napkins for the photos.

With my other hat on, I am delighted with the support we have been able to give to the Surrey Mark 2022 MBF Festival. Over the past couple of years, it has not been easy raising funds for the Festival so I would like personally to thank each and every one of you for your support.

Looking forward to 2022, I believe we are well placed to move our Order forward and attract more candidates into our Order. Talk to your colleagues in the Mark about the lovely ceremonies they are missing out on, as well as the enjoyment of our meetings.

Finally, I wish you and all your families a healthy, happy, and prosperous 2022. Keep safe and well.

John V C French, District Grand Prefect.



Seven Grand High Priests at Surrey Council

Surrey Council No. 64 held another "merry meeting" on Monday 20th December 2021 at Croydon. Seven candidates were admitted to the Order of Grand High Priest, with the representative candidate being Brother Richard Wileman, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Surrey Freemasons.



The ceremony was delivered by W.Bro. Mike Neville, who acted as Most Excellent President. He was ably advised and assisted by two senior Allied Masons, Very Worshipful Brother Eric Trodd, with our District Grand Prefect, Right Worshipful Brother John French acting as Vice President. John has been to the lodge so many times that he will be proposed as an Honorary Member. The Deputy District Grand Prefect, Worshipful Brother Bob Tuthill, also supported the Council

The Council continues to grow with three new members balloted for, with two, Brother Kevin Morrell and Brother Bareen Charitra being admitted on the evening as Brothers of St Lawrence. The Master, Worshipful Brother Steve Jones, delivered some excellent ritual.

For both degrees, W.Bro. Mike gave illustrated presentations to highlight the historical and religious context of the ceremonies. Bro. Richard stated that the ceremony was "....an enlightening and enjoyable experience. I particularly valued the historic presentation, which brought the Degree into context". An excellent Festive Board was then held.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 21st February 2022 with Degrees of St Lawrence and Grand Tilers of Solomon. Any brother wishing to join, attend or take a degree at the Council should email Mike Neville mrmikeneville@aol.com

Article by Mike Neville

A busy afternoon for Godalming Council

In January, Godalming AMD Council No 185 were pleased to receive the Deputy District Grand Prefect, W.Bro. Bob Tuthill, and several District Grand Officers of the Year. The Deputy District Grand Prefect was escorted by W.Bro. Anton Smith, the District Grand Director of Ceremonies.

A Lodge of St Lawrence was opened by the Worshipful Master V.W.Bro. Brian Howlett. The District Grand Director of Ceremonies, W.Bro. Anton Smith, was admitted and advised the Worshipful Master that the Deputy District Grand Prefect was outside the door of the Lodge and demanded admission.

The Deputy District Grand Prefect was welcomed by the Worshipful Master and offered the gavel. He said how good it was to be at Godalming Council and introduced the Provincial team.



The next item on the agenda was to install Bro. Ray Seeley, our District Grand Treasurer, as Worshipful Master. This was done by V.W.Bro. Brian in an excellent manner.



The next item on the agenda was to conduct the ceremony of the Holy Order of Grand High Priest. This was conducted in an excellent manner by V.W.Bro. Eric Trodd, who did both the ceremony as Most Excellent President, as well as the Lecture.

V.W.Bro Mik Barnes acted as Vice President and Bro. Ray Seeley as the Chaplain. Barrie Selway acted as Herald and Anton Smith was the Master of Ceremonies.

The Candidates for the Holy Order of Grand High Priest were Hugh Johnstone, the Representative Candidate, Richard Hardaker, and Dave Harrison.



After the ceremony W.Bro. Ray was congratulated by our Deputy District Grand Prefect, who wished him a most enjoyable year.

The Lodge was then closed, and the customary photographs taken. After refreshments in the bar the Brethren of Godalming Council and their guests sat down to a most enjoyable meal at the Godalming Masonic Hall.