



An Interview with Bryan Page

Our District Grand Prefect recently called in to see one of our senior members, Bryan Page, to catch up on how he is and to get his thoughts on the Allied Masonic Degrees. Bryan said:

I first became aware of the Allied Masonic Degree by over hearing brethren speaking about it and reading books about Masonry. Eventually the opportunity arose to seek membership, which I accepted and was duly admitted into the Londinium Council No 47 on the 15th of December 1977. We were 3 candidates in number, one was Harold Gould, who has risen to high positions in this and other Masonic orders and served as District Grand Prefect of Southern Counties, which was subsequently divided into Surrey, Sussex and Southern Counties. The other so far as I know, we didn't see again!

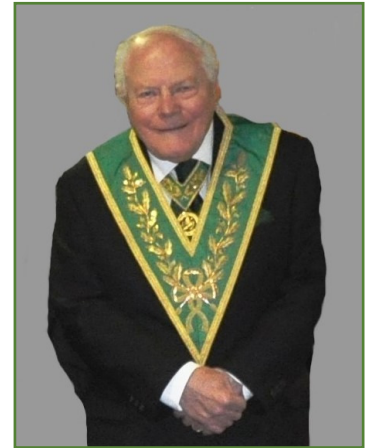
My proposer was Francis J Stokes and seconder was Howard A Stokes, both were notable Masons in London and Surrey at the time. I advanced to the Chair (I think for 2 years) followed by a good many years as D.C. While I was on the staff at Freemasons Hall, I became a founder of The Brigadier Gallway Council No 126, served as W.M. and am now an Honorary Member.

I joined Surrey as a founder of Kyngstun Council No 102 and was later a founder of Southern Cross Council X111. I have very much enjoyed my time in the Surrey Allied as well as the opportunities that I have had during my time as a Surrey Allied Mason.

With having 5 degrees the Allied Masonic Degrees was of great interest to me and as such wanting to find out more and thereby further my Masonic knowledge. I have always found the Allied not only very interesting but also very rewarding. The 5 degrees made it both special and different.

Fortunately, I have been OK throughout the Pandemic, albeit have not been able to attend any meetings because I am not very stable on my feet at the moment. Thinking ahead, I believe that Retention is of paramount importance, as well as encouraging the members to get back to attending and enjoying our regular meetings.

The variety of the 5 degrees in the Allied should be a great incentive for any potential new members to join our Order. I would encourage any Mark Master Mason to join this very interesting order but do it in a sensible way without stretching yourself by ensuring you have the time available to commit to your preferred council. When the time is right talk to the senior members in the Order as I am sure you will receive all the help, support and advice that may be needed. Be sure that you have enough time to commit to the order not only to attend the regular meetings but it's also important to understand the various degrees so as to be an asset to your council and a good mentor for future members.



Where's Your Napkin?

At a recent Festive Board of the Fratres Calami Aerariique Lodge of Mark Master Masons the members of the Allied Masonic Degrees posed for a photo proudly wearing their AMD napkins.

These have proved very successful in promoting interest in our Order.

Don't forget to take yours along to your Mark meetings.....

News Flash

W.Bro. Mike Neville was spotted on television the other day not wearing his Allied Masonic Degrees tie.....



A Busy Day for our District Grand Prefect

Tuesday the 1st of February 2022 was a very special day in the life of Comites Sigillorum Lodge No 1352. Not only were they honoured with a visit from an Assistant Provincial Grand Master; but also present were the Provincial Grand Master, members of the Provincial Executive, present and past and several Provincial Officers of the Year. Our District Grand Prefect, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master in the Mark Province of Surrey was to be installed into the Chair of the Mark Lodge; and they had two Candidates for Advancement.



The Mark Lodge was opened by the Acting Worshipful Master, W.Bro. John Johnston, who welcomed everyone, especially the Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Ian N Clark, who was saluted with seven under the direction of the Acting Director of Ceremonies, W.Bro. Paul Wicking, **G.Stwd.**, Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies. A procession was formed to escort W.Bro. Bill Barr, Assistant Provincial Grand Master into Lodge.

The next item on the agenda was the Installation of our District Grand Prefect as Worshipful Master. Worshipful Brother John French was then presented to the Worshipful Master, recited his Obligation, and then installed as Worshipful Master.

The main item on the agenda was to ballot for and Advance Brothers William Harris and Peter Deacon. Brothers William and Peter were advanced in an excellent manner by the Worshipful Master, W.Bro. John French, ably assisted by the acting Senior Deacon, W.Bro. David Lawrence.

Brothers William and Peter were welcomed into the Lodge by W.Bro. John French, and into the Order and the Province of Surrey by the Assistant Provincial Grand Master.

After the Lodge was closed the Brethren of Comites Sigillorum Lodge and their guests retired to the bar for refreshments before sitting down to a most convivial meal at the Croydon Masonic Centre,

I think the Secretary, W.Bro. Ray Beadle, was relieved it went so well.....

Photos by Bob Tuthill

