



the Surrey gridiron



Issue 42 – SEPTEMBER 2024

The new Surrey Companion Orders Web Site

We are pleased to announce that on the 1st of September a new web site for all the Companion Orders in Surrey was launched. This has been the result of a considerable amount of hard work and burning of the midnight oil by Tim Ford, supported by others with a specific responsibility for each Order.

It is modelled on the MMH website with some enhancements and personalisation. The main web page is www.surreycompanionorders.com from which all Surrey Companion Orders, including the Allied Masonic Degrees web pages, can be accessed.



You can also access the Allied Masonic Degrees website directly by using www.SurreyAllied.com
Please look at the new website which has a lot of information about our Order in general, the District Officers, details of Councils in the District, issues of the Surrey Gridiron, our Provincial newsletter, and other information.



If you have any items of interest, news, or upcoming events, please submit full details to Chris Eley at cw.eley@talktalk.net who is our website content manager.



A busy afternoon for Kyngstun Council



Wednesday the 5th of September was a busy day for the Brethren of Kyngstun Council. They had the Installation of Bro. Stuart Hogarth as their Worshipful Master, and they conducted a Grand High Priest Ceremony for nine candidates.

Nine Candidates! Yes, nine!

The A3 let me through with little or no problem and I was soon at the Surbiton Masonic Centre with good friends Barrie Selway and Cliff Foster.



The mission ahead was to take part in the fifth part of my five Allied Masonic Degrees. Then I would be a full member of this intriguing order.

So many different facets, so many new characters, and the ever-present Chris Eley. It is good to be among friends especially the latter who always manages to put me at my ease.



My good friend, W. Bro Barrie Selway was in the chair for the opening part of the evening, the Degree of St Lawrence the Martyr.

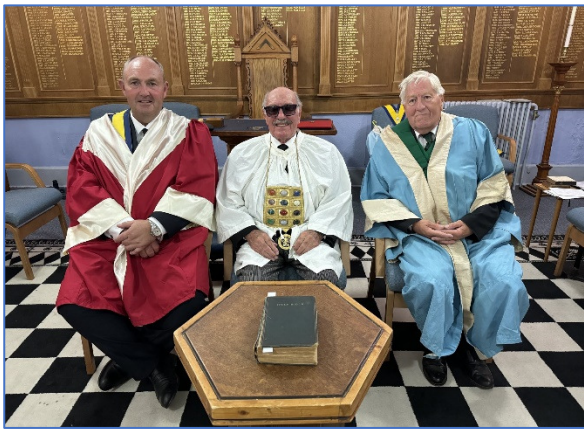
I remember the story of St Lawrence from my younger days. The story then made me shudder. However, W. Bro. Barrie was left whole and in one piece to open the meeting. I even got to act as part time door man. I was prompted how to knock, and the reply from inside for the outside if you know what I mean.

The big news was that our District Grand Prefect R.W. Bro. John French had been taken ill and was unable to be present. His apologies were duly recorded. Several officers were belatedly invested, and the meeting was adjourned.



We nine new boys were asked to leave whilst the room was prepared for the ceremony of Holy Order of Grand High Priest.

There being nine of us, one was delegated to act on our behalf, the remainder would be involved to a serious degree. Bro. Wayne Lucas, a member of the Council, was the chosen brother.



The Convention of the Order of Grand High Priests was opened, and we were invited into the Temple to witness the Ceremony. The ceremony progressed to the point where we were to be involved. It was in several parts and took some time to complete.

I was so impressed by V.W.Bro. Eric Trodd, the Most Excellent President. He is well advanced in years but carried out the lengthy ceremony with the minimum of prompting from the Chaplain and with due solemnity. That is some gentleman. Utmost respect.



The Office of Vice President was taken by Bro. Stuart Hogarth, Chaplain by W.Bro. Derek Williamson, Master of Ceremonies by W.Bro. Chris Eley, Conductor by W.Bro. Barrie Selway, Herald by Bro. Bob Soper, and Steward by V.W.Bro. Mik Barnes.

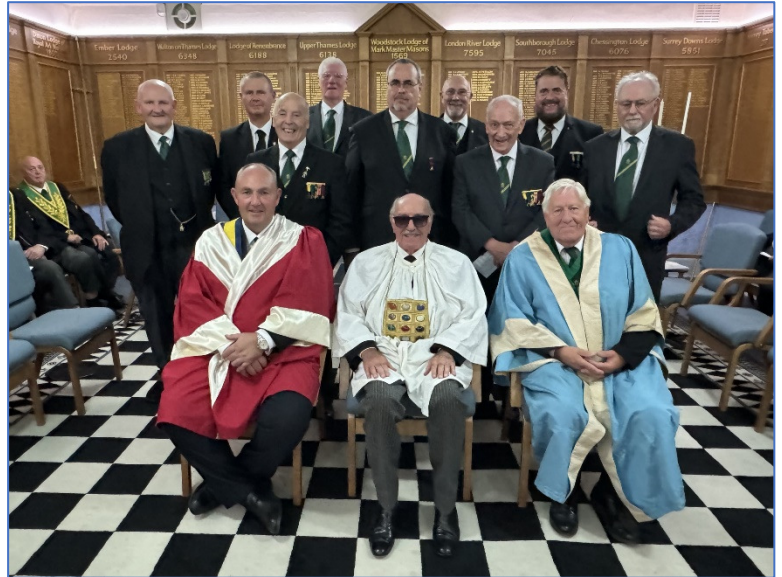
We had our bread and participated of the wine and the deed was done. I had completed the fifth and final part of entry into a most fascinating, diverse, and interesting Order.

My good friend, Trevor Sadler, the District Recorder, lent me a set of five mini jewels which I shall wear to all appropriate meetings with pride.

I now need to read up on the order I have undertaken to be part of and decide where I can be in that order. There are quite a few characters to get to know. There is quite an amount of ceremony to reacquaint myself with and I must practise the signs.

Then followed the Installation of Bro. Stuart Hogarth as Worshipful Master. This was done in an excellent manner by W.Bro. Barrie Selway, assisted by his Officers.

Barrie congratulated W.Bro. Stuart and wished him a successful and enjoyable year as Master of the Kyngstun Council.



The last item on the busy agenda was to present Grand Council Certificates to Brothers David Lawrence and Bob Soper. As our District Grand Prefect was unable to be with us, these were presented by W.Bro. Chris Eley, Past Grand Senior Warden.





The Lodge of St Lawrence the Martyr was closed and after the usual photographs We repaired to the bar, benefited from the “traditional” sausages, and were soon in our eating area.



Some thirty of us sat down to a good repast, typical of the standards which are part of the Surbiton experience. The meal was readily adapted by the management for those six or so people who were not too keen on the salmon which was beautifully served. Yes, there was the palate clearer and a good dessert and then it was time to go home.



I am so looking forward to the next meeting, which may well be at Farnham. I shall wear my five mini jewels with pride.

What an interesting day, and I would recommend the whole experience of the five aspects of this order to you all.

Article by Michael Fenech and photos by Chris Eley and Michael Fenech



A lovely afternoon by the River

R.W.Bro. John French District Grand Prefect accompanied by his Deputy W.Bro. Bob Tuthill and 19 brethren in attendance enjoyed a fine meeting at Riverside Council No 212 at Guildford on the 3rd of September.

The Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Miguel Godfrey, performed an excellent ceremony of St Lawrence the Martyr for their latest candidate, Bro Andrew Lynch.

As his friend, Miguel had been asking Andrew to join the order for some years and when he finally agreed it was a great pleasure for him to undertake this task.

Andrew has been a great supporter of the Allied Hog Roast for the last four years and therefore especially pleasing that he is now officially a member.

The Lecture was superbly presented by Bro Barrie Selway and all the officers helped make this a first class ceremony. A special mention to V.W.Bro. Eric Trodd who stood in for the Director of Ceremonies at very short notice.



A eulogy was given in memory of M.W.Bro. Michael Edward Herbert with a lovely anecdote from V.W.Bro. Brian Howlett, and the Council stood for a minute's silence in memory of a truly great Freemason.

The minute's silence was also observed in memory of another honorary member of the Council, W.Bro. Brian Vickers, who had also sadly passed away.

The Worshipful Master for the ensuing year was elected and Bro Miguel Godfrey declared it in favour of Bro Kevin Brennan.



A superb meeting ended with an impressive festive board at the centre and the convivial company was enjoyed by all present.

Article and photos by Bob Tuthill

The Annual District Grand Meeting of Devon & Cornwall

The Annual District Grand Meeting of Devon & Cornwall was once again held at The Mount Edgcumbe Masonic Hall in Plymouth on the 27th of July 2024.

RW.Bro. Barry Slade, District Grand Prefect for Devon and Cornwall at the meeting welcomed representatives from other districts across the country.

The meeting commenced by remembering those brethren who had in the last year called to Higher service. Minutes of the last meeting were confirmed, and the usual reports were then given and adopted.

RW.Bro. Barry Slade, District Grand Prefect gave his annual address and then Appointed and Invested his team of District Officers for the ensuing year along with other Promotions before closing the District Meeting and retiring to the festive board, which included Local Strawberries and Devon Clotted Cream and copious amounts of convivial chat amongst the brethren.

Many of the visitors attending also enjoyed a few extra days in the area enjoying the sights and local food that Devon and Cornwall has to offer.



Article and photos by Bob Tuthill

Future Meetings

Wednesday	18/09/2024	Southern Cross	Installation
Friday	04/10/2024	Runnymede	Installation (DGP visit)
Wednesday	06/11/2024	Farnham	GHP (DGP Visit)
Tuesday	05/11/2024	Surrey Hills	Installation (DGP visit)