



## Knights of Constantinople at Farnham Council



I have just completed my first session as secretary to the above council. I am often amazed that, after some twenty years as a mason, I am still being made aware of how so interesting my masonic life is. And now, as a secretary, I have just delved into the five degrees that go to make up the Allied Masonic Degrees.



I even felt that it compared very favourably with Mark in that it is different, intricate and, more importantly, makes candidates come out of the different degrees with a smile on their faces. Just like the Mark. Wonderful.

## The 2025 Annual Meeting of District Grand Council We'd love to see you there Still time to book in

The 2025 Annual Meeting of the District Grand Council of Surrey will be held on Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup> of December 2025 at the Croydon Masonic Hall.

The meeting will commence at 11.00 a.m. and will be followed by lunch at 1.00 p.m.

*Brethren should be seated by 10.45.*

District Grand Council will be honoured by the presence of two Past Deputy Grand Masters



## Knights of Constantinople at Farnham Council (Cont.)

Our meeting in October started off with some concerns especially as I was doing it for the first time. A terrific challenge. We have the fairly common problem of only having some fifteen members. Only nine were able to make it on the night. That worry was remedied by our District Grand Prefect, R.W.Bro. John French, who persuaded some eleven visitors to attend. So, we had twenty in total. Brilliant! And this is where it got better. We had the ebullient W.Bro. Chris Eley to assist us with the ceremony.

We had three candidates of some stature. We had our Barrie as DC. We had the District Grand Prefect, many well known guests, including Bill Barr, and we had a joining member, Trevor Sadler, the District Grand Secretary.



Our Worshipful Master, W.Bro. John Ward, was superb in his delivery of the ritual. Our agenda, with three candidates, was brilliant thanks to the latter, and W.Bro. Chris Eley who acted as Conductor and stole the show.

We opened, as is required, in the degree of St Lawrence, the Martyr. Our District Grand Prefect was welcomed appropriately, and we progressed on with the usual masonic requirements of minutes approval etc. and completed the joining of our new member. To have the District Grand Secretary by your side was very reassuring.



Then the candidates were admitted. W.Bro. Chris Eley was so good as the Conductor. His top hat and tails and parading around the temple with the three guys in tow made us all smile. He is a terrific person.



The candidates were in awe at one point when swords were brought into the scenario. What a simple, yet entertaining and respectful, part of our meeting.



The evening was further enhanced by the presentation of three certificates to W.Bro. John Ward, Bro. Cliff Foster, and yours truly by our very relaxed District Grand Prefect.





The Council agreed to make two charitable donations, including one to George Deacon, Provincial Grand Master of the Mark Province of Hampshire and Isle of Wight, a founding member of the Council, towards his 2026 MBF Festival.



Thank you to all the participants, including the assembled brethren and their noisy work. There was so much going on, it had to be seen to be fully appreciated.

We then went to partake of the Festive Board. Unfortunately, our very industrious D.C. took ill and had to be taken to Hospital by family members.

He is well on the way to recovery, and he and I went out for a drink two days later with another friend. All's well that ends well, and our Council meeting ended well.

***Thanks to Michael Fenech***

# Surrey Hills Council

Surrey Hills Council No 208 held a short business meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> of November at Nutfield. The reason for the short meeting was that Warlingham Council in the Order of Royal and Select Masters which meets at Nutfield on the same day were conducting a Royal Master for four candidates from Pride of Surrey Council.

The Council was opened by the acting Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Alan Hall, the Immediate Past Master, who welcomed everyone. W.Bro. David Barden acted as Junior Warden, and I acted as Chaplain.



The main item on the agenda was to declare Bro. Wally Maynard as Worshipful Master and W.Bro. Alastair Richardson as Treasurer for the ensuing year.

The Council was closed, and we retired to the bar for refreshments while the Temple was being set up for the Royal and Select Masters meeting

