



The Installation Meeting of Kyngstun Council



The Installation meeting of Kyngstun Council was held at the Surbiton Masonic Hall on Wednesday the 2nd of September 2026. Prior to the meeting we met up in the bar for refreshments and a chance to catch up with good friends.



A Lodge of St Lawrence the Martyr was opened in due form by the Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Bob Soper. W.Bro. Bob welcomed everyone and wished them an enjoyable afternoon. V.W.Bro Mik Barnes kindly acted as Senior Warden for the afternoon.



After a report on the door the Escorting Officer, W.Bro. Bill Barr, District Grand Director of Ceremonies, advised the Worshipful Master that R.W.Bro. John V C French, District Grand Prefect, was outside and demanded admission.

The R.W. District Grand Prefect entered, was welcomed by the Worshipful Master and accepted the gavel. He was saluted with seven under the direction of the Escorting Officer.

R.W.Bro. John said how pleased he was to be visiting his own Council officially and how much he was looking forward to the afternoon. He introduced the District Officers who had accompanied him, thanking them for their support. After highlighting several District activities, he vacated the Chair as the Council had work to do.

The Lodge of St Lawrence the Martyr was adjourned, and a Council of Knights of Constantinople was opened. Bro. Bill Brodie was admitted to the Degree of Knights of Constantinople by the Illustrious Potentate, W.Bro. Bob Soper, assisted by the Conductor, W.Bro. Chris Eley, in top hat and tails. The lecture was delivered in an excellent manner by W.Bro. Barrie Selway. Bro. Bill was then congratulated by our District Grand Prefect.



The Council of Knights of Constantinople was closed, and a Lodge of St Lawrence the Martyr was resumed



The next item was to install Bro. Wayne Lucas as Worshipful Master. V.W.Bro Mik Barnes was invited to remain in the Senior Warden's Chair; W.Bro. Mark Donovan was invited to take the Junior Warden Chair; W.Bro. Chris Eley to continue as Director of Ceremonies, and W.Bro. Alan Hall was invited to act as Inner Guard.

Bro. Wayne Lucas was then Installed as Worshipful Master for the year 2026/2027 by W.Bro. Bob Soper in an excellent manner.

W.Bro. Wayne was congratulated by our District Grand Prefect who wished him an enjoyable year and charged him with getting at least one new member into the Council during his year. The Worshipful Master appointed and invested his Officers.



Our District Grand Prefect was then invited to present four Grand Council Certificates to W.Bros. Bob Soper and Wayne Lucas; and Bros. Roger Tutton and Nael Clarke. This he did in a very informative way.



After the regular business of the Council had been concluded, the Council was closed in peace and harmony, and we retired to the bar for refreshments before sitting down to a most convivial meal together at the Surbiton Masonic Hall.



Riverside Council

A new era in my Masonic life has begun and my first venture was to the delightful centre of Guildford, a short spin down the A31 and, thanks to Michael Fisher, a lovely ride in his Lexus.

There are a fascinating set of ceremonies in the Allied Masonic Degrees. Five different ceremonies and lots to enjoy. I heard someone say that they had been in AMD for some time but with there being five degrees and most groups only meeting three times a year in general, it often escaped his memory how interesting the meetings were. One comment occasionally repeated was that it was often not unusual that one could not remember particular elements of the presentation thus giving the event something of a newness.

If you are not a member, I would highly recommend that you give a visit to your nearest centre some consideration. Take a leaflet or go online and see what these five can offer. You will not be disappointed. Let us get on with the story.

My immediate observation was that I was amongst friends, there was the customary hand shake with guys from Mark and when I met a new face, there was often a conversation of interest that invariably led an offer to visit another Council.



W.Bro. Stuart Hogarth was in the chair for this meeting, and most positions were filled by members. I noted my good friend, Barrie Selway, was down to deliver a serious amount of ritual. I was asked to be a grabber but left that to a more well-built and taller man in the shape of W.Bro. Trevor Sadler. After the standard openings, welcoming R.W.Bro. John French, our District Grand Prefect, who was in attendance, minutes being presented and accepted and Officers still to be invested, we proceeded to the first main part of the meeting. This was to Introduce, Receive and admit a good friend in the person of Bro. Clive Goode.



The ceremony is the first of one's introduction into the Allied Masonic Degrees and tells the story of St Lawrence the Martyr. It is a good piece of history and was well presented by those involved. The Worshipful Master was in fine form.

There followed a brief break while the room was prepared for another of the five degrees, the Grand Tilers of Solomon.



On this occasion, we had a candidate in the form of Bro. Brian Cutts from my part of Surrey, who told me that he had thoroughly enjoyed his progression through the degrees.

This presentation was delivered by V.W.Bro. Eric Todd. He has an amazing memory and his nonagenarian age only added to the superb rendition he offered us that evening.

I should also mention that W.Bro. Miguel Godfrey gave an impeccable display of his part in this story and so did W.Bro. Barrie Selway, who brought the main part of this event to a close.

It was a great evening and the two degrees more than maintained our interest in the entire meeting. I cannot recommend too highly that you delve into this order. It is so interesting, so varied and so involving.

Come along and join us and prove me right.



Our Festive board was a two-course affair and suited the group. The toasts were what you would expect, and the raffle raised a healthy three figure sum. A good beginning for me.

I went to a very interesting evening, met some very good friends, and won a bottle of very acceptable, white wine which will not be in the next raffle.

Thanks to Michael Fenech



A Busy Day for Southern Cross Council



In September the Brethren of Southern Cross Council No XIII held their Installation meeting at the Nutfield Masonic Centre. Present at the meeting was our District Grand Prefect, RW.Bro. John French, and many other Heads of Surrey Orders.



A Degree of St. Lawrence the Martyr was opened by the Worshipful Master, V.W.Bro. Mik Barnes, who welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Council then voted on a proposition to welcome as a joining member W.Bro. David Clark, A.Dist.G.Sec. This was carried unanimously and the Worshipful Master welcomed him into the Council.

The next item was to ballot for as a Candidate for the Order and, if successful, to admit as a Brother of St Lawrence the Martyr, Stephen John Berkshire, Assistant Provincial Grand Master in the Mark Province of Surrey. .

This proved in his favour, and V.W.Bro. Mik Barnes invited W.Bro. Richard Wileman to take the Chair for the ceremony.

Bro. Steve was Introduced, Received and Admitted as a Brother of St Lawrence in a most sincere manner by W.Bro. Richard Wileman.



Bro. Steve was welcomed into the Order by R.W.Bro. John French. We then had the installation of W.Bro. Alan J White as Worshipful Master. W.Bro. Alan was presented to the installing Master, V.W.Bro. Mik Barnes, and answered in the affirmative the questions put to him.



Brethren below the rank of Installed Master in this degree retired and a Board of Installed Masters was opened. W.Bro. Alan recited his obligation and was invested, installed and saluted.

W.Bro. Alan White then invested V.W.Bro. Mik Barnes with the Worshipful Master's collarette that W.Bro. Richard Baker had presented to the Council several years ago.



Our District Grand Prefect was invited to present a Grand Council Certificate to W.Bro. Paul Wicking. This he did in an informative manner

After the regular business of the Council was concluded and the customary photographs taken the Brethren of Southern Cross Council and their guests went into the bar for refreshments before sitting down to a very convivial lunch at the Nutfield Masonic Centre





Southern Cross Council No. XIII is the District Grand Prefect's Executive Council operating under the District Grand Council of Surrey within the Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees of England and Wales.

Surrey Council No. 64 AMD and Bond of Friendship Mark BBQ

Bond of Friendship Mark and Surrey Council No. 64 AMD have a busy social calendar. The brethren, and potential members, came together on Saturday the 29th of August for a Summer BBQ.



Wayne and Claire were thanked by all present for a wonderful day of friendship; and the Event raised £250 for charity.

Next year's BBQ and more social events are being planned, including a White Table lunch, with Cockney Knees-Up entertainment, on the 28th of November, and a Curry Night on the 15th of December.

Twenty-three brethren and ladies attend the event, hosted by Wayne and Claire Tibbs at their home in Carshalton. Everyone enjoyed a fantastic selection of food (and drink!) and, in true lodge tradition, there was sing-along session, which went into the night!



Thanks to Mike Neville



Loud Shirt Competition

One of the highlights of our annual Surrey AMD Charity Hog Roast is the now legendary 'Loud Shirt Competition'. What began around ten years ago, thanks to our great friend Brian Howlett, has become one of the most eagerly anticipated traditions of the day.

Brian decided that smart casual simply wasn't colourful enough and arrived in a wonderfully outrageous Caribbean-style shirt. It raised smiles, started conversations and, before long, everyone wanted to join in. Today, family and friends search far and wide for the brightest, boldest and most outrageous shirts they can find, all in the true spirit of friendship, laughter and charity.

This year, however, was different. Brian was sadly unable to make the journey from Portsmouth as he had been unwell. Yet, in typical Brian fashion, he wasn't about to let the occasion pass unnoticed. Instead, he sent us these photographs wearing this year's shirt, raising a drink to all his Surrey AMD friends and reminding us that, although absent in person, he was certainly with us in spirit.

So, whilst others may have worn shirts that were louder, brighter or even more outrageous, there could only be one deserving recipient of our special recognition. For the enthusiasm that started it all, for keeping the tradition alive even from afar, and for reminding us what this day is truly about, Brian Howlett is – and always will be – 'Always a Winner in Our Books.'

We wish Brian every strength and a speedy recovery, and we look forward to welcoming him back amongst us, proudly wearing yet another unforgettable shirt. Until then, Brian, thank you for the smiles, the laughter and for helping create one of the happiest traditions of our annual charity day.

Here's to next July... the shirt competition awaits!



Thanks to John French

District Grand Council of Surrey web site:

<https://www.surreycompanionorders.com/welcome-allied-masonic-degrees>



The 2026 Annual Meeting of District Grand Council

Save the Date

The 2026 Annual Meeting of the District Grand Council of Surrey will be held on Saturday the 5th of December 2026 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.

