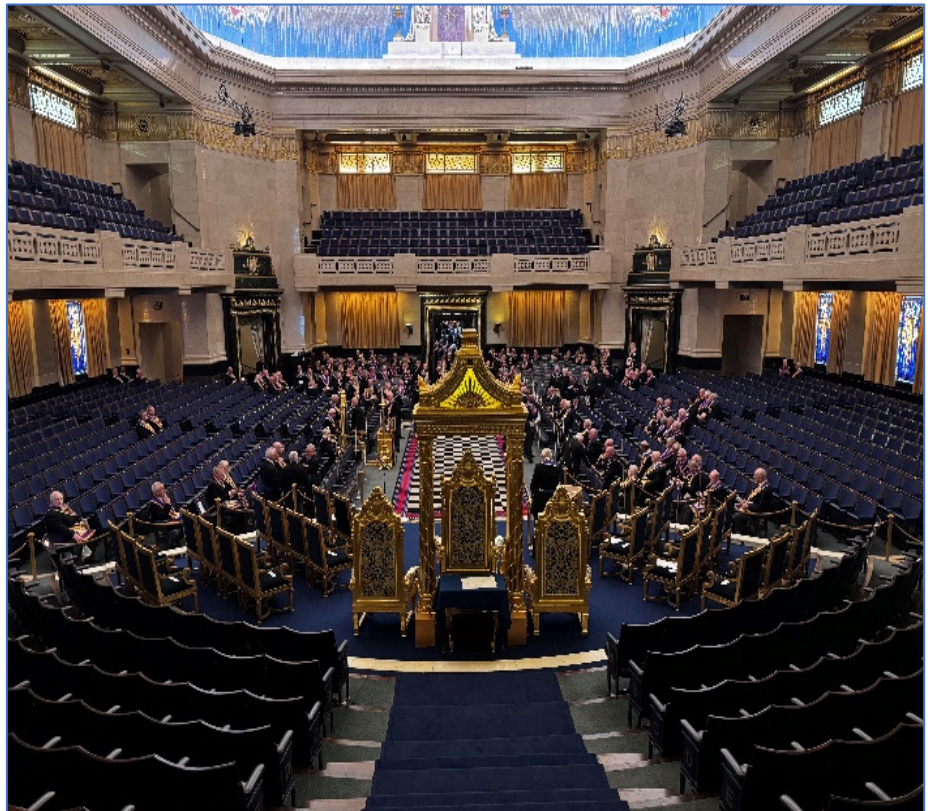




Mark Grand Lodge



It was a great pleasure to be back at Freemasons' Hall on Tuesday for the September Communication of Mark Grand Lodge.



The ground floor of the Grand Temple at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, was filled almost to capacity and the balconies were also in use, with recipients, supporters, and Provincial and District representatives.



The meeting was opened by the Presiding Officer, M.W.Bro. Paul Clement, flanked by R.W.Bro. Prof. Denovan Wilson and R.W.Bro. Peter Williams.



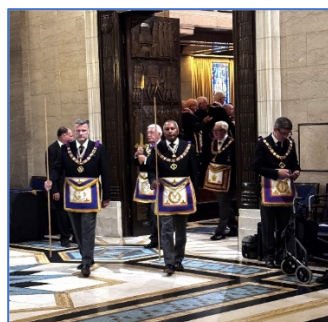
With items of business of Grand Lodge having been transacted, the President of the Mark Benevolent Fund, R.W.Bro. Ian Clark, rose to give a precis of Grants made by the MBF since June.

The Presiding Officer called upon W.Bro. David Leslie Ryan, P.A.G.D.C. from the Province of Hampshire and Isle of Wight, who then gave notice that at the next communication of Grand Lodge in March 2027, he will propose the re-election of our Grand Master, HRH Prince Michael of Kent, GCVO.

The recipients of promotion were then invested, following which the Pro Grand Master addressed the meeting, extending the personal greetings from our Grand Master. He then made a special award to R.W.Bro. David Ashbolt, and invested him with The Order of Service to Mark Masonry.

In rounding off his address he then thanked the staff at Mark Masons' Hall for their efforts in administering to the Order and in preparing for the day's meeting. Also thanks to the Grand Director of Ceremonies and his team for the ceremonial arrangements of the day. The Grand Secretary then rose to highlight some items of other business.

After a few house keeping notes, Grand Lodge was closed and the Brethren departed to refreshment. Thank you to all those who came along to attend this meeting and support Grand Lodge, and congratulations to all those who received Promotion. Your attendance makes these meetings very special occasions for everyone.







The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Mark Promotions Meeting



The Promotions meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Hampshire and Isle of Wight was held on Saturday the 1st of August 2026 at Botley Masonic Centre in Hampshire under the Banner of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Lodge of Installed Masters No 1687. I have never seen the Temple so full, with over 150 Brethren attending the meeting.



The Lodge was opened by the Worshipful Master, and the regular business of the Lodge was completed. While this was taking place the guests of the Province were enjoying tea and coffee in the dining room. Among the guests was the Provincial Grand Master of Surrey, R.W.Bro. John French; and many Heads of other Orders attending to support the Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Hampshire and Isle of Wight.



The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Lodge of Installed Mark Masters Lodge was called off, and the Brethren were called to order to receive the Provincial Officers of the year accompanying the Provincial Grand Master, led by the Provincial Grand Sword Bearer, and followed by the Provincial Grand Standard Bearer. Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in due form by the Provincial Grand Master who was saluted with seven under the direction of the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies.



The Provincial Grand Master welcomed the honoured guests from other Provinces, as well as other Orders within Hampshire and Isle of Wight. He then had much pleasure in promoting several Brethren in Provincial Grand Rank, congratulating each recipient personally. He also had much pleasure in presenting several MBF collarettes, thanking the recipients for their support for the MBF.



The Provincial Grand Master addressed the Brethren. He thanked the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Installed Mark Masters Lodge for hosting the meeting. He said that the attendance was truly remarkable and thanked the R.W. Brethren, Guests and Heads of Orders and their representatives for attending to give great support to the Meeting. He congratulated those Brethren who received Grand Rank in June, as well as those receiving promotion in September.



He reminded the Brethren that their recruitment comes from the Craft, including the Royal Arch. He said that they are so fortunate to have such a wonderful relationship with the Craft, Royal Arch, and the Companions Orders, and long may it continue. He thanked everyone involved in ensuring that the 2026 MBF Festival event held at Liphook was such a success, with a grand total of £1.9 million, and closed by thanking all those whose hard work has ensured a very successful and enjoyable day.

Provincial Grand Lodge was closed and the Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the Assistant Provincial Grand Masters, together with members of the Past Executive, honoured guests and Provincial Officers retired in procession. The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Installed Mark Masters Lodge was closed, and after refreshments we went into the dining room for a most enjoyable lunch.



After lunch the Provincial Grand Master invited R.W.Bro. Roger Richardson, Provincial Grand Master of the Mark Province of Sussex, to make a presentation to Fizz Thompson, County Commissioner Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, St John Ambulance, of £19,848, to support the local area with lifesaving equipment.



In her response Fizz thanked the MBF and the brethren of Hampshire and Isle of Wight Mark Province for their generous donation, which will help to save lives. The Provincial Grand Master then thanked everyone for attending to make this a very special meeting, wishing them a safe journey home.

Farewell to Nick Butterworth



It was with great sadness we learnt of the passing of W.Bro. Nicholas Robert Butterworth (Nick) on the 13th of August 2026 after a short illness.

Nick was born on the 4th of July 1970 and was a bar steward by profession. He was initiated into Angelus Lodge No 4552 Lodge in December 2006 and was its Master in 2013, 2017, and 2019. He was a member of three other Craft Lodges, including North Surrey Masters where he was its Junior Warden in 2018.

In the Craft Nick received his first appointment to Past Provincial Assistant Grand Sword Bearer in June 2019 and was promoted to Past Provincial Assistant Grand Registrar in May this year.

Nick was a member of six Royal Arch Chapters. He was exalted into Angelus Chapter in May 2009, and M.E.Z. of Lovekyn Chantry Chapter No 6807 in May 2015.

He received his first Royal Arch appointment to Past Provincial Grand Standard Bearer in May 2021 and was promoted to Past Provincial Assistant Grand Sojourner in May this year. He was so

pleased to be able to say that he was the only one receiving a promotion in both the Craft and Royal Arch that day.

Nick was also a member of two of the Companion Orders in Surrey having been Advanced into Richmond Lodge of Mark Master Masons in June 2012 and Elevated into Richmond Royal Ark Mariner Lodge in January the next year. He was Worshipful Master in 2022, and Worshipful Commander in 2025 and 2026.

Nick, who was a gentle man with a unique character, enjoyed his Masonry to the full until ill health stopped him attending. Many of us will remember him sitting in the bar at Surbiton, even when he was not attending a meeting.

He will be sorely missed by all who knew him.



Meridian Mark Lodge

I am originally a Hampshire and Isle of Wight Craft Mason, and my Craft Mother Lodge is Aldershot based Panmure No 723. However, as many of you will know, I conduct my Mark life in glorious Surrey where I am a very, very, happy Mark Man. I have a duty to Hampshire and Isle of Wight Masonry and having heard that a Mark Lodge in my Aldershot Centre was struggling with low numbers I decided to seek admission to Meridian.



I am a lucky man, in that I will never win the lottery, but if there is one car park space left, I will fortunately get it. So, it was with Meridian. Let me explain. This low number lodge was installing a good friend of mine, W.Bro. Andrew Banks, and the secretary was Bro. Francis Williams who is a member of my Surrey Mark Lodge, St Andrews 806. W.Bro. Gary Ellis of Hants & IOW



Mark Province was instrumental in introducing me to Meridian and I had duly paid my subs and joining fee.

The lodge meets in the daytime at 11.00.am. I persuaded three people to come along as my guests, my good friend Barrie, W.Bro. David Hannan, who guided me when I first joined Freemasonry in 2002; and R.W.Bro. Ian Clark, my first leader in Mark Surrey to accompany me.

I had already spoken to R.W.Bro. John French, our Provincial Grand Master, who had said that he was coming along to support me. I told you I was a lucky man. I was a joining member, but there was an Installation of W.Bro. Andrew, and that resulted in R.W.Bro. George Deacon, being present.

He is the Provincial Grand Master, of Hampshire & Isle of Wight, who attended with his substantial team.

It was a very impressive gathering of likeminded Mark Men and the meeting that then took place was equally as impressive.

After the usual preambles of the Lodge opening and minutes being approved, I was asked to leave the room together, with Bro. Robert Banks who was also a joining member. We were then invited into the meeting to be given the news that we had been approved as joining members and were welcomed into the Lodge by W.Bro. Michael Fisher, another good friend.



Then there was the entry of the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of Hampshire & Isle of Wight, R.W.Bro. George Deacon, and his team, all accomplished effectively and led by the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Provincial Director of Ceremonies.

The meeting was conducted by W.Bro. Michael installing W.Bro. Andrew in an accomplished manner with Officers of the Lodge being appointed to their respective roles. Addresses to the Master, Wardens and Brethren were very well delivered. Alms were collected, the Almoner gave his report and we closed the meeting. Brilliant.

Dining at Aldershot is always fine with the cost not being excessive and the food of a good standard. The raffle raised a healthy three figure sum, and we left the lodge to be greeted by a very sunny afternoon. This was one of those events for which I joined Freemasonry..... to be with likeminded men, in a convivial atmosphere and enjoy a good Festive Board. What more could I ask for. I told you I was a lucky man!

Thanks to Michael Fenech



A Trafalgar Night Dinner at Redhill Lodge



The Battle of Trafalgar was a major naval battle fought on 21 October 1805 off the coast of Spain during the Napoleonic Wars. A British fleet of 27 ships, led by Vice-Admiral Horatio Nelson, defeated a larger combined French and Spanish fleet commanded by Admiral Pierre-Charles Villeneuve.

Nelson used bold tactics to break through the enemy line, allowing the British fleet to gain a decisive advantage. The victory destroyed

Napoleon's hopes of invading Britain and established British naval supremacy for more than a century.

Although the British won a crushing victory, Nelson was fatally wounded during the battle and died shortly before it ended. He became one of Britain's greatest national heroes.

Join Redhill Lodge of MMM No 1285 to celebrate this glorious victory at their Trafalgar Night event on the 14th of October. All are welcome so bring a shipmate along.

For tickets and more information please contact Stephen Hall. Contact details are on the flyer on the back page.



Noel Lodge

This old established Lodge was the setting for the start of a new season which has already begun in earnest and with the normal enthusiasm attributed to the MARK degree. The staging of this evening's meeting was Surbiton, a fitting venue with generous parking and easy accessibility.

We started with the Royal Ark Mariners brief meeting ably led by Commander W.Bro. Tony Friend, who had the enjoyable task of welcoming our Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. John French before moving on to the business of the evening. R.W.Bro. John took the opportunity to speak to the important role of Almoner, giving that role the importance it so deserves.



W.Bro. James Hill, Provincial Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies, very helpfully organised photos and we had a fine gathering of Mariner men for the start of season memory banks.

It is good to see the smiling faces of Royal Ark Mariners on view and R.W. Bro. John suggested that a further edition of the Keystone could perhaps be completely Royal Ark Mariner.

I know, that in one Lodge, which has a Mariner Lodge moored to it, a decision was made some time ago that of the four meetings, the first would be for the Installation of the Mark Worshipful Master and the second for Installation of the Worshipful Commander, thus giving

prominence to the degree of Royal Ark Mariner which it deserves. This was further enhanced by the Festive Board being laid out in Mariner style. We retired at the end of the meeting and the temple was laid out for the Mark Meeting.

The Mark meeting was opened in due form and at the appropriate time, the team of Mark Officers assembled and progressed in to the Lodge and stood in order to acknowledge our Provincial Grand Master, R.W. Bro. John French, who was very warmly received with applause by members and guests of Noel Lodge.



After the customary greetings were exchanged members got down to business. Gosh that does sound very formal but there was a relaxed and happy atmosphere throughout as Bro. Tony Friend was installed in a very capable manner by W.Bro. Martin Dadswell.



It was very pleasing to remark that the Lodge is in a healthy position with Mark Master Masons providing a continual line of succession, which will serve the lodge well for a few years to come.

The Addresses to the Master was delivered by the multi-tasking Chaplain, W.Bro. Derek Williamson, who also delivered the address to the Wardens. W. ro. Roy Baker addressed the Overseers with our Provincial Grand Master delivering the address to the Brethren.

The Junior Deacon, Bro. Keith Mitchell, spoke well with good volume and gave a splendid delivery of the Keystone Jewel. Our compliments to this fine Mark Master Mason. It was very, very well executed and strongly delivered with much confidence.

This was an absolutely first class and moving ceremony delivered with dignity and in a relaxed atmosphere. So enjoyable! The various deliveries by the Secretary, W.Bro. Andy Fox, made us all smile and added to the mood of the evening. His Almoner report was serious but very humorous.



We processed out, having pics taken at the beginning of the meeting so that all were included.

This was a splendid meeting, and the food was of the usually high standard expected and received at Glenmore House. Thanks to the very conscientious staff.

You should come along and experience a very enjoyable meeting with Noel Lodge at their next gathering on the third Monday in November.

Thanks to Michael Fenech



PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF

MARK MASTER MASONS

of Surrey



CHARITY GOLF DAY

IN AID OF THE
SURREY MARK BENEVOLENT FUND

A fantastic day of golf, great company and friendly competition – all in support of a worthy cause.

FRIDAY
9th OCTOBER 2026

CHOBHAM GOLF CLUB
Chobham Road, Knaphill
Woking, Surrey GU21 2TZ





TEA/COFFEE & BACON ROLLS
From 11:00hrs,
1st tee from 12:00hrs



ONE COURSE MEAL
After play
with prizes



NON MASONS
Will be made most
welcome as guests



PRIZES
For winners and
various competitions

COST FOR THE DAY
£73.00 or (meal only - £23.00)

TO BOOK
Please email Calvin Gower c/o
ProvGM@surreymarkmasons.com
Confirming your name, handicap,
lodge number and details of any guests

TO CONFIRM YOUR BOOKING
Payment by BACS must be made to:
**Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of
Surrey Benevolent Fund**
Sort code: 30-93-74 | Account No: 02602788

PLEASE USE YOUR NAME AS THE REFERENCE
"i.e. C GOWER GOLF"

THE CHARITY DAY IS IN AID OF THE SURREY MARK BENEVOLENT FUND

Redhill Lodge of Mark Master Masons No 1285

Presents

A Trafalgar Night Dinner

Wednesday 14th October 2026

Croydon Masonic Hall

7.30 pm

A traditional Trafalgar Night 4 course dinner with English Wines,
Pussers Rum and Taylor's 20 yr old Tawny Port
from our Allies

Musical Entertainment
Sea Shanty's will be sung during the
evening

A white table, all are welcome

Further information and tickets
from: -
Stephen Hall
Stephen@sjhconsulting.co.uk
07534282786

£45 per person

The Provincial Grand Lodge of
Mark Master Masons of Surrey
requests the pleasure of your company at the

Surrey Mark Charity Ball

Saturday 24th October 2026

ARRIVAL
6:30pm

DINNER
7:00pm

CARRIAGES
Midnight

Wotton House Hotel & Country Estate
Guildford Road, Dorking, Surrey RH5 6HS

Drinks reception • Three-course dinner • Entertainment • Dancing

PRICE
£89
per person

DRESS CODE
Black Tie
Lounge suit alternative welcome

PRESENTED BY
**Surrey Mark
Benevolent Fund**

Family, friends & guests all warmly welcome

An evening of fine dining, entertainment and dancing at Wotton House

Brethren, a Date for your Diary
– for you to accompany the
MARK PGM



ANNUAL SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

SUNDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2026

**SERVICE AND WREATH LAYING CEREMONY
IN CASTLE GROUNDS OF GUILDFORD**

FURTHER GUIDANCE FOR
PARADE PARTICIPANTS TO FOLLOW

*So many gave their lives
for the benefit of
future generations.
It is our duty to
remember, honour
and never forget.*

Contact Richard Knox
r.j.knox@btinternet.com
for further details



LEST WE FORGET

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Surrey
www.surreymarkmasons.com