



A Christmas Message from our Inspector General



Dear Brethren of the District of Surrey,

As we prepare to celebrate Christmas, I have been looking back over the past year regarding our wonderful Order in Surrey.

It is good to see that the numbers in our Order are increasing. Most Chapters have had Perfections, and some have waiting lists. The standard of ritual remains high, and I am keen to support this by promoting the Chapters of Improvement, details of which will again be circulated.

As we had anticipated, the recent changes to membership criteria have had little effect on our numbers. We have lost no members due to the changes, which is much better than some Districts, and have gained one non-Christian member with another in the pipeline. Our Order is now open to ANY Master Mason of 6 months standing. Please talk about the enjoyment of Rose Croix meetings with members of your other Masonic units. I was late coming into the Order because none of my Masonic contacts were in Rose Croix. Sutton recently held an excellent open evening for the Progressive Orders, and we have had several expressions of interest. The future of our Order is in your hands.

As we look forward to the festivities in a few weeks, please keep in touch with Brethren or neighbours who may be alone this Christmas, one phone call or visit can make a world of difference to someone who is lonely.

Let us look forward to the New Year with confidence and pride in our Freemasonry.

Jackie and I send you and those you love very best wishes for a happy Christmas and a peaceful and healthy New Year.

Pax Vobiscum.

Yours sincerely and fraternally,

Richard

Richard Wileman 33°
Inspector General, Surrey





Supreme Council 30°



On Wednesday the 4th of December at 10 Duke Street six Surrey Brethren were conferred with the Thirtieth Degree of Grand Elected Knight Kadosh in a very moving ceremony. Chris Eley and Mike Ellis of Lily of Kasauli Chapter No 200, Wayne Lucas of Antioch Chapter No 791, Mike Neville and Neil Tyson of Noel Money Chapter No 122, and John Tomlin of Warlingham Chapter No 830.

The ceremonies were performed in an excellent manner by members of the Supreme Council of the Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the 33rd of the Ancient and Accepted Rite of Freemasonry for England and Wales and its Districts and Chapters Overseas.



The 55 candidates were split into two groups to have conferred upon them the Intermediate Degrees of the 19th to the 29th. Ill·Bro. Chris Eley of Lily of Kasauli Chapter No 200 was a Representative Candidate.



We all taken to the Grand Temple, paraded in and took our seats. The impressive ceremony was conducted by the Sovereign Grand Commander, Most Puissant Brother John Boyington, CBE, 33rd assisted by members of the Supreme Council.

Afterwards the Sovereign Grand Commander gave a most interesting talk on the history of the Degree. The historical setting of this degree is the story of the fall of the Knights Templar and the public execution of their Grand Master Jacques de Molay on Friday, October 13, 1307, which may, or may not be, the origin of the legend about Friday the 13th being an unlucky day.

We then went over to Mark Masons Hall for refreshments before sitting down to a most enjoyable meal in the dining room at Mark Masons Hall.



An Orders beyond the Craft evening in Surrey



A very interesting and informative workshop entitled 'Orders beyond the Craft' was held at the Sutton Masonic Hall on the 29th of November 2024.

Many of the Orders beyond the Craft had their stands in the main dining room, where the representatives of each Order were available to answer questions. The Rose Croix stand was manned by our Inspector General and our District Recorder.

We then went up to the main Temple where Chris Hatton introduced the evening, which was arranged to give everyone a brief insight into the ceremonies and regalia of many well-known Orders, as well as some lesser-known Orders in Freemasonry.



Behind the scenes Simon Polkinghorne was busy getting all the regalia ready for the next team to go into out the Temple. Here we see Ken wearing a 30^o Sash, Dave a 31^o Collar, Steve a 32^o Collar, Richard a 33^o Sash, and Chris is wearing very old 18^o Regalia.

In conclusion Chris Hatton thanked Simon for all his hard work putting the evening together, the team of 'models' Dave

Harrison, Ken Macintosh, Steve Rush, and Chris Eley; and especially Shelley and her staff for the wonderful support and encouragement they had provided. It was good to see the support from members of the Executive from several Companion Orders in Surrey.



The Enthronement Meeting of West Croydon Chapter



The Enthronement meeting of West Croydon Chapter was held at Croydon on Tuesday the 17th of September. The Chapter was opened by the Most Wise Sovereign, Ill.·Bro. Paul Wicking, 30^o who welcomed all their members and guests, particularly V.·Ill.·Bro. Richard Wileman, 33^o, Inspector General, and Ill.·Bro. Ray Beadle, 30^o, our District Recorder.



The main item on the agenda was to enthrone as Most Wise Sovereign E.·&P.·Bro. Ian Clark, 18^o. The ceremony was conducted by Ill.·Bro. Paul Wicking in an excellent and most sincere manner. Ill.·Bro. Ted Thorne gave the Address to the Princes and V.·Ill.·Bro. Richard Wileman gave the Address to the Princes. Ill.·Bro. Ian Clark was congratulated by Paul Wicking and Richard Wileman, who both wished him a successful and enjoyable year as Most Wise Sovereign of West Croydon Chapter.



After the Officers had been appointed and invested Ill.·Bro. Paul Wicking proposed that the sum of £100 be given to Diabetes.UK and the sum of £100.00 will be given to Katie's Lymphoedema Trust from the Chapter's Relief Chest. This was approved unanimously. Our Inspector General thanked the Chapter for their kind donations.

The Third Point was conducted and the Chapter closed by their new Most Wise Sovereign.

We then retired for refreshments before sitting down to a most enjoyable meal at the Croydon Masonic Hall.



Around the District



The Enthronement Meeting of Antioch Chapter



The Enthronement meeting of Antioch Chapter was held at Sutton on Thursday the 7th of November. The Chapter was opened by the Most Wise Sovereign, E·&P·Bro. Steve Jones, 18^o who welcomed all their members and guests, particularly Ill·Bro Wally Maynard, 32^o, Past District Recorder, and Ill·Bro. Ray Beadle, 30^o, our District Recorder.



The main item on the agenda was to enthrone as Most Wise Sovereign E·&P·Bro, David Sinclair, 18^o. The ceremony was conducted by Ill·Bro. Steve Jones in a very sincere manner.



Ill·Bro. David Sinclair was congratulated by our District Recorder, who wished him a successful and enjoyable year as Most Wise Sovereign of Antioch Chapter.



After the Officers had been appointed and invested Ill·Bro Wally Maynard was invited to present Supreme Council Certificates to E·&P·Bros. Mark Budds and Richard Garbett. This he did in his own very interesting and special manner

The Third Point was conducted and the Chapter closed by their new Most Wise Sovereign.





We then retired for refreshments before sitting down to a most enjoyable meal at the Sutton Masonic Hall.

