



District Grand Council Annual Meeting

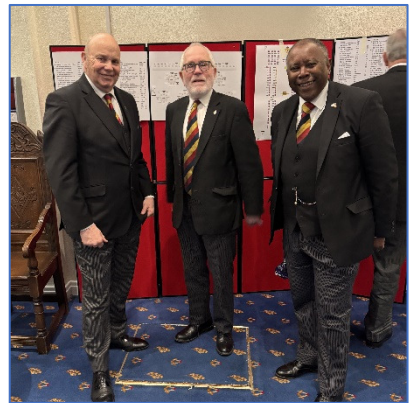


The Annual Meeting of the District Grand Council of Surrey took place on Saturday the 28th of March at the Croydon and District Masonic Hall, Croydon, Surrey.



From 9.30 am the Companions of the District and their guests started arriving for coffee and bacon butties, while the Director of Ceremonies and the District Recorder were busy ensuring the Temple was set up ready for the meeting. It was good to see so many Companions from other Districts who came along to support the District of Surrey. There were also many heads of other Orders in Surrey attending to support our District Grand Master.







By 10.45 am everyone was seated in the Temple. Just after 10.50 am the Brethren were called to order to receive the distinguished guests, including Right Illustrious Companions and past members of the District Executive. The meeting was called to order by Ill.Comp, Stephen Hall, the District Grand Director of Ceremonies, to receive the District Grand Master, R.Ill.Comp. William A (Bill) Caughie. District Grand Council was opened in due form by the District Grand Master, who was saluted with seven under the direction of the District Grand Director of Ceremonies.

The Companions honoured the memory of Companions who had been called to higher office since the last meeting. This included our Past District Grand Master, R.Ill.Comp. Arnold Long, and Ill.Comp. Chris Eley, **P.G.Swd.B.** was asked to give a tribute to R.Ill.Comp. Arnold before we sang the Hymn The Day Though Gavest Lord is Ended, played by V.Ill.Comp. Dr. R.A. Scott, **P.G.Lect.**, Grand Organist.

After the regular business of District Grand Council had been concluded the District Grand Master announced the re-appointment of Ill.Comp. Simon McCarthy, **P.G.Cond.C.**, as Deputy District Grand Master and Ill.Comp. Christopher Cradock, **P.G.Swd.B.**, as District Grand Principal Conductor of the Work. A total of 23 appointments and promotions in District Grand Rank were announced.

In his Address to District Grand Council. R.Ill.Comp. Bill Caughie said how wonderful it was to see so many Cryptic Masons at Croydon and thanked everyone, Surrey members and visitors alike for supporting our Annual Meeting and helping to make it a successful day.





The newly appointed District Grand Recorder, Ill.Comp. Stephen Hall, then read a citation following which our District Grand Master had much pleasure in presenting the Arnold Long Certificate of Merit to Ill.Comp. Terry Carpenter in recognition for everything he has done for the Order and the District of Surrey over the past 12 years as District Recorder. For once Terry was speechless....

The meeting was then called to order and closed in due form. The District Grand Master, the Deputy District Grand Master, the District Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, together with members of the Past Executive, honoured guests and District Officers then left the Temple in procession, greeting our Honoured Guests as they retired from District Grand Council.



After refreshments in the bar where we had time to catch up with old friends we were called into lunch.

District Grand Council of Surrey web site:
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There was a most convivial atmosphere in the dining room. After lunch the Deputy District Grand Master in his toast to the District Grand Master presented him with a gift of cans of Irn Bru.





The Installation meeting of Pride of Surrey Council



The Installation meeting of Pride of Surrey Council No 168 took place at the Sutton Masonic Hall, on Friday the 6th of March. The Council was honoured by the presence of our District Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, Ill.Comp. Chris Cradock, on his first visit to the Council.



The council was opened by Ill.Comp. Stuart de Fraine Ford, Thrice Illustrious Master, who welcomed everyone wishing them an enjoyable afternoon.

After a report on the door, the Assistant District Grand Director of Ceremonies, Ill.Comp. Alan Boniface, entered and advised the Thrice Illustrious Master that Illustrious Companion Christopher D Cradock, **P.G.Swd.B.**, District Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, was outside the door of the Council and demanded admission.

The District Grand Principal Conductor of the Work entered, was warmly welcomed by the Thrice Illustrious Master and invited to take the Chair of the Council. He was saluted with five under the direction of the Assistant District Grand Director of Ceremonies.

He said how pleased he was to be visiting Pride of Surrey Council for the first time in his capacity as District Grand Principal Conductor of the Work and thanked everyone for their warm welcome. He introduced the District Officers

who had accompanied him, as well as those District Officers who were members of the Council. He spoke about the Annual Meeting and congratulated Ill.Comp. Len Hiller who will be re-appointed as District Grand Sword Bearer; Ill.Comp. Chris Eley re-appointed Assistant District Grand Recorder; and Ill.Comp. Richard Wileman will be appointed District Grand Steward. They were all congratulated by the Companions

The main item on the agenda was to Install Comp. Garth Blanchard as Thrice Illustrious Master. The Ceremony was conducted in a very sincere manner by Ill.Comp. Stuart de Fraine Ford, and the Officers of the Council.

Ill.Comp Garth was congratulated by the District Grand Principal Conductor of the Work. The Council Officers were then appointed and invested



The Council was closed, and after the customary photographs the Companions of the Pride of Surrey Council and their guests retired for refreshments in the Miller Bar before sitting down to a most enjoyable meal together.