



The Executive Team Visits the Sword of Constantine Court

On Monday the 14th of July the whole Executive Team were at Croydon to visit the Sword of Constantine Court.

Our Provincial Grand Master, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Provincial Grand Secretary and Provincial Grand Marshal made an unofficial visit to the Sword of Constantine Court No. 120 where they instructed Bro. Mark Carter of Operative Lodge No 8783 and Croydon Commemorative Chapter No 5578. Our Provincial Eminent Grand Prior. W & Em Bro Chris Eley was also present, as a member of the Court.



The Court was opened by the Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Richard Morgan, who welcomed all the visitors, especially R.W.Bro. Mark Donovan who was saluted with seven under the direction of the Provincial Grand Marshal, W.Bro. Mickey Wiles.

The Provincial Grand Master responded accordingly saying that he was delighted that the Sword of Constantine Court had yet another candidate for Instruction.

The Worshipful Master conducted the Ceremony of Instruction in an excellent manner, with assistance from W.Bro. Leslie Grout; and W & Em. Bro. Chris Eley, **KAG**, Provincial Eminent Grand Prior, who explained the Emblems of Mortality.

Bro. Mark later said how much he had enjoyed the ceremony and thanked the brethren for the warm welcome he had received.

Bro. Ese Edjekughele was declared Worshipful Master for the ensuing year and W.Bro. Chris Cradock, **KCAG, PSGD, PProvJGW**, was declared Treasurer.





After the Instruction Ceremony our Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Mark Donovan, *GCAG*, congratulated Bro. Mark. He welcomed him into the Province of Sussex, and wished him many happy years in the Order.



He was then invited to present Grand Court Certificates to Brothers Nael Clarke and Kenny Ng. This he did in a very interesting and informative way.



After the regular business of the Court had been concluded the Court was closed.

After refreshments, the members of the Sword of Constantine Court and their guests sat down to a most enjoyable curry supper at the Croydon Masonic Hall.

Four Candidates for Instruction into the Court of King Alfred the Great

On Friday the 25th of April at the City of Winchester Freemasons Hall, in Winchester the Court of King Alfred the Great No 79 received the Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and several Provincial Officers of the year.

The Court was opened in due form by the Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Malcolm Lloyd, who welcomed everyone. After a report at the door the Provincial Marshal, W.Bro. Mickey Wiles, announced that the Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Mark Donovan, GCAG, and several Provincial Officers were without. The Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Mark P Donovan, GCAG, entered the Court, was welcomed by the Worshipful Master and took the Chair. He thanked the Brethren of The Court of King Alfred the Great for their warm welcome, introduced the Provincial team present and thanked them for their support.

He then returned the Chair to the Worshipful Master and Invested the Provincial Grand Secretary, W.Bro. Colin Wilson, **PGBannerB**, who was absent through illness at the Provincial Meeting,

The Secretary then rose and read the Dispensation to Instruct four candidates at this meeting given by the Provincial Grand Master. A Ballot was held for the Candidates: Brothers Laurence Thomas Brookes, David Ronald Nash, Andrew Michael Henton and Graham Ronald Lant, this proved in Favour of all the Candidates

After a knock at the Door the four Candidates were admitted with Laurence Brookes being the Lead Candidate. After proving themselves, the Ceremony of Instruction was conducted by the Worshipful Master with both Deacons leading the Candidates. The Marshal and both Deacons assisted with giving the signs to the Candidates and they were then individually given the Charges led by W.Bro. Peter Hartland and Invested with their Aprons. The address was given by W.Bro. Mark Gannaway to the newly Instructed Members.



The Court was closed and the Brethren of The Court of King Alfred the Great retired to the bar for refreshments before sitting down to a most enjoyable meal together at the Winchester Masonic Hall.

Thanks to David Stock and Satish Dhir





King Ælfræd the Great



Alfred the Great (Old English: *Ælfræd*); c. 849 – 26 October 899) was King of the West Saxons from 871 to 886, and King of the Anglo-Saxons from 886 until his death in 899.

He was the youngest son of King Æthelwulf and his first wife Osburh, who both died when Alfred was young. Three of Alfred's brothers, Æthelbald, Æthelberht and Æthelred, reigned in turn before him. Under Alfred's rule, considerable administrative and military reforms were introduced, prompting lasting change in England.

Alfred had a reputation as a learned and merciful man of a gracious and level-headed nature who encouraged education, establishing a court school for both nobles and commoners to be educated in both English and Latin, and improving the legal system and military structure and his people's quality of life.

Athelstan, who ruled from 924 to 939, was the grandson of **Alfred the Great** and built upon his grandfather's accomplishments.

An Official Visit to the Court of Aelle



Saturday the 28th of June 2025 was a busy day for the Court of Aelle meeting at the Eastbourne Masonic Centre.

They were honoured by a visit from the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, W.Bro. Bernard Marchant, a member of the Court, they also had two Candidates for Instruction, and they Installed a new Worshipful Master.



The meeting was opened by the Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Tan Rusby, who warmly welcomed the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Provincial Officers of the year, and other visitors. W.Bro. Mickey Wiles, Provincial Marshal was the Escorting Officer.



The Deputy Provincial Grand Master took the Chair for a short while and thanked the Master and members of the Court for their warm welcome.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master was saluted with five under the direction of the Provincial Marshal, W.Bro. Micky Wiles. W.Bro. Bernard responded appropriately saying how much he was looking forward to the meeting. He introduced the members of the Provincial Team, and visitors from other Courts in the Province and thanked them all for their continued support.

The first item on the agenda was to Instruct Bros. Michael Alan Dawson and Malcolm Thomas Shapcott.

The Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Tan Rusby, and his Officers conducted the Ceremony of Instruction in a very sincere manner, assisted by W & Em. Bro. Chris Eley, KAG., Provincial Grand Eminent Prior, who explained the Emblems of Mortality, and W.Bro. Martin Smith, KAG, Provincial Junior Grand Warden, who acted as Senior Deacon.



Bros. Michael and Malcolm later said how much they had enjoyed the ceremony and thanked the brethren for the warm welcome they had received. They were congratulated by the Worshipful Master and the Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master.



A Grand Court Certificate was presented to Bro. Nigel Goodyear in a most interesting and informative manner by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, who congratulated Bro. Nigel on receiving his Certificate and wished him many happy years in our Order.

Bro. Tony Padley, Master-elect, was Installed as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year by W.Bro. Tan Rusby in an excellent and memorable manner. The new Master, W.Bro. Tony, appointed the Officers for his Year, and invested those who were present.



W.Bro. Bernard also congratulated the new Worshipful Master and his Officers and wished them a happy and successful year in office.





After the Court was closed, we retired for refreshments before sitting down to a most enjoyable meal at the Eastbourne Masonic Centre.



Ælle of Sussex

Ælle is recorded in early sources as the first king of the South Saxons, reigning in what is now called Sussex from 477 to perhaps as late as 514.

Ælle and three of his sons are said to have landed at a place called Cymensora near Selsey Bill in 477. He immediately made war on the Britons, and in 491 he and his son Cissa massacred a British garrison at the former Roman fort of Anderida, now known as Pevensey in East Sussex.

Ælle was the first king recorded by the 8th century chronicler Bede to have held *imperium*, or overlordship, over other Anglo-Saxon kingdoms.





A Candidate for Archbishop Aethelhelm Court



On Tuesday the 8th of July the Brethren of Archbishop Aethelhelm Court No 34 welcomed our Provincial Grand Master and Instructed another Candidate into the Order.

The Court was opened by the Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Stephen Surridge, who welcomed everyone, especially the Provincial Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Mark Donovan, GCAG. The Provincial Grand Master was saluted with seven under the direction of the Provincial Grand Marshal, W.Bro. Mickey Wiles.



The Provincial Grand Master introduced the members of the Provincial Team and visitors from other Courts in the Province thanking them for their continued support. He then had much pleasure in congratulating W.Bro. George Rodger and John Bryant on their preferment in Provincial rank in April as they were both unable to attend the Annual Meeting.



The main item on the agenda was to ballot for a Candidate for Instruction, Bro. Mike Bushby. This proved in his favour and Brother Mike was instructed into the Order in an excellent manner by the Worshipful Master, ably assisted by W.Bro. Leslie Grout and the Officers of the Court. W & Em. Bro. Chris Eley, *KAG*, Provincial Grand Eminent Prior, acted as the Eminent Prior.



The Worshipful Master warmly welcomed Bro. Mike into the Archbishop Æthelhelm Court, and the RW Provincial Grand Master welcomed them into the Order, and the Province of Sussex.

W & Em. Bro. Chris Eley, *KAG*, Provincial Grand Eminent Prior, was invited to Consecrate W.Bro. Alan Swaby as Eminent Prior in advance of the Installation meeting of The Court of Whit-land in September when he will be appointed and invested as Eminent Prior.



Bro. Ken McIntosh was elected as Worshipful Master and R.W.Bro. Lional Mee, *GCAG*, Assistant Grand Master, was elected as Treasurer for the ensuing year.

The meeting was closed and after photographs we retired to the bar for refreshments before sitting down to a most convivial meal at the Nutfield Masonic Centre.





The Consecration of a new Court in Guernsey

We are going to consecrate a new Court in the Province of Sussex. The Court of Lenuri will be on the Island of Guernsey, one of the Channel Islands, and will be the 11th Court in the Province of Sussex.

The consecration date is the 7th of March 2026 and will take place in Guernsey with the Province of Sussex taking a team out to perform the consecration ceremony. All Brethren are invited to attend and enjoy the weekend. Ladies will be catered for and invited to attend the Saturday evening banquet.

As our Provincial literature has always stated "the Channel Islands are part of the Province of Sussex", that part of our desire is now beginning to take shape. More information will follow.

The Lenur Islands

Evidence for Roman settlement of the islands is sparse, although the islands were visited by Roman officials and traders. The Roman name for the Channel Islands was Lenuri (Lenur Islands) The traditional Latin names used for the islands were Caesarea for Jersey, Sarnia for Guernsey, and Riduna for Alderney.

In the sixth century, Christian missionaries visited the islands. Samson of Dol, Helier, Marculf and Magloire are among saints associated with the islands. In the sixth century, they were already included in the diocese of Coutances where they remained until the Reformation.

There were probably some Celtic Britons who settled on the Islands in the 5th and 6th centuries AD (the indigenous Celts of Great Britain, and the ancestors of the modern Welsh, Cornish, and Bretons) who had emigrated from Great Britain in the face of invading Anglo-Saxons. But there were not enough of them to leave any trace, and the islands continued to be ruled by the king of the Franks and its church remained part of the diocese of Coutances.

From the beginning of the ninth century, Norse raiders appeared on the coasts. Norse settlement eventually succeeded initial attacks, and it is from this period that many place names of Norse origin appear, including the modern names of the islands.

In 933, the islands were granted to William I Longsword by Raoul, the King of Western Francia, and annexed to the Duchy of Normandy. In 1066, William II of Normandy invaded and conquered England, becoming William I of England, also known as William the Conqueror. In the period 1204–1214, King John lost the Angevin lands in northern France, including mainland Normandy, to King Philip II of France, but managed to retain control of the Channel Islands. In 1259, his successor, Henry III of England, by the Treaty of Paris, officially surrendered his claim and title to the Duchy of Normandy, while retaining the Channel Islands, as peer of France and feudal vassal of the King of France.

Around 1290, Otto de Grandson split the Channel Islands into two separate bailiwicks which were never absorbed into the Kingdom of England nor its successor kingdoms of Great Britain or the United Kingdom. During the Hundred Years' War, the Channel Islands were part of the French territory recognizing the claims of the English kings to the French throne.

The Masonic Centre

The Guernsey Masonic Centre is situated on the Rue de la Vallee, St. Martin, Guernsey. GY4 6HW.

The Province of Guernsey and Alderney in the Channel Islands is one of the smallest Provinces of the United Grand Lodge of England, supporting just eleven Lodges. However, the Channel Islands are not within the United Kingdom, having been a possession of the Duke of Normandy long before 1066.

Today they remain British Crown Dependencies in a unique relationship under the British Monarchy. The Channel Islands lie just a few miles off the French coast in the English Channel.

There are essentially five populated Islands. The Province of Guernsey and Alderney also includes the smaller Islands of Sark and Herm, whilst the Island of Jersey is a separate Province.

Freemasonry came to Guernsey, the second largest Island in the Channel Islands, in 1753 during the reign of King George II. In 2003 the Province celebrated 250 years of Freemasonry on the islands.

