

the Sussex crown

Special Grand Court Issue



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Grand Court

The Masonic Order of Athelstan Annual Assembly 2025 was held on Saturday the 25th of October 2025 at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester., at 11.00 a.m., and included a Grand Court Banquet at 2:00 p.m.



It was a splendid meeting of Grand Court and congratulations to our brethren from Sussex for their appointments and promotions. A truly remarkable day witnessing MW Bro Charles Aspinell being installed as Grand Master in such a sincere and meaningful manner by the Grand Master MW Bro Paul Johnston. A truly extraordinary moment for everyone to witness.



With several Grand Masters in attendance from our sister Grand Courts of Australia, France and the USA. Also in attendance were Provincial Grand Masters from Spain, S E Asia and Greece.

From Australia, the Philippines, Malaysia, Greece, and England, Brethren gathered as one family under the banner of The Masonic Order of Athelstan. They travelled far, yet every mile was worth it – for what awaited them was not distance, but Union, Harmony, and Brotherhood. Among them, MW Bro Paul Weldon Johnston, Past Grand Master, sat humbly with his Brethren.











**The Grand Master
MW Bro Charles Aspinell, GCAG**



**The Deputy Grand Master
RW Bro Clive Manuel, GCAG**



**The Assistant Grand Master
RW Bro Lionel Mee, GCAG**



Photos by Bob Tuthill and Satish Dhir



Festival Service for the 1100th Anniversary of the Coronation of King Athelstan

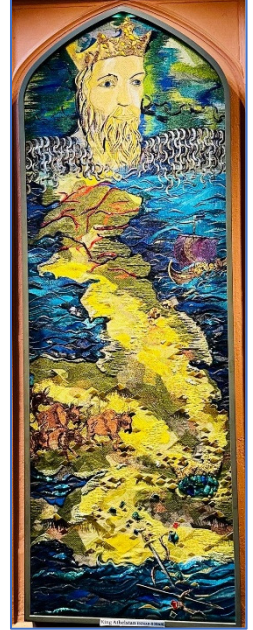


2025 marks the 1100th anniversary of the coronation of Athelstan, the first King of England, in Kingston-upon-Thames. He was the first of seven Saxon Kings of England to be crowned in this Thames-side town. Inside All Saints Church are the magnificent embroideries of Athelstan and the six Saxon Kings. These colourful life-size panels were created by contemporary embroiderers Jacky Puzey and Beatrice Mayfield based on an original design by Sophie Pearson.

On Thursday the 4th of September 2025 All Saints Church in Kingston-upon-Thames hosted an



uplifting Festival Service to celebrate the 1100th anniversary of the crowning of King Athelstan on that site. The church choir was joined by the choir of Tiffin School singing some much-loved coronation classics. The guest preacher was the distinguished Athelstan scholar, The Very Reverend Professor Sarah Foot, Regius Professor of Ecclesiastical History at Oxford University and Dean of Christ Church Oxford.



To mark the Anniversary, a Peal was rung before the service by the All Saints Bellringers. The Revd Joe Moffatt, Team Rector of the Kingston Team Ministry and Vicar of All Saints, welcomed the congregation. A reading from the First Book of Kings by His Majesty's Representative Deputy Lieutenant for the Royal Borough of Kingston, Father Martin Hislop. Prayers of Intercession were led by Revd Oliver Ross, Vicar of Malmesbury Abbey, where Athelstan was buried, and the Blessing was given by the Bishop of Kingston, The Right Reverend Dr Martin Gainsborough. The Blessing of St Aldhelm, the 7th century Abbot of Malmesbury, who was so venerated by King Athelstan that he chose to be buried in that place.

Photos by Satish Dhir