

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.

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 in the reign of King George II. In 2003 the Province celebrated 250 years of Freemasonry on the islands.



The Court of the South Saxons welcomes three new brethren



In a proud moment for Freemasonry on the south coast, in July the Court of South Saxons No. 60 of the Masonic Order of Athelstan welcomed three new members at its most recent meeting held at the Ferring Village Hall. Brothers Andy Foreman, Lee Ridley, and Douglas Carr were formally instructed into the Order in a dignified and memorable ceremony.

This growing and dynamic Court continues to establish itself as one of the most active in the region, with this latest instruction marking another step in its expansion. The ceremony was conducted with precision and reverence, led by the Worshipful Master and ably supported by his officers, creating an atmosphere befitting the ancient traditions of the Order.



The new brethren, all experienced Freemasons, expressed their enthusiasm and honour at joining the Order of Athelstan— an Order that delves into the rich heritage and early roots of English Freemasonry. Their inclusion adds to the strength and diversity of the Court, and they were warmly welcomed by members and visiting brethren alike.

Following the formal proceedings, the evening continued in true fraternal spirit with a festive board—fittingly featuring traditional Fish & Chips.

The relaxed and convivial atmosphere at the festive board gave everyone the opportunity to share in fellowship, congratulate the new members, and reflect on the values that unite them.

With continued interest from Masons across the region, the Court of South Saxons No. 60 remains a beacon for those seeking deeper understanding of Masonic history and ritual.

The successful instruction of Brothers Foreman, Ridley, and Carr is not only a personal milestone for them, but a sign of the enduring vitality of the Court.

The future looks bright in South Saxons, where the legacy of King Athelstan is honoured through commitment, learning, and brotherly love. *Thanks to Mickey Wiles*



The South Saxons

The South Saxons (Old English: Sūþseaxe) were a Germanic tribe who migrated to Britain after the Roman departure and settled in what is now Sussex during the Anglo-Saxon period.

They originated from the North German Plain and settled in Britain during the 5th and 6th centuries. According to tradition, their arrival in 477 AD was led by Ælle and his three sons, who landed at Cymenshore and conquered the local Britons.

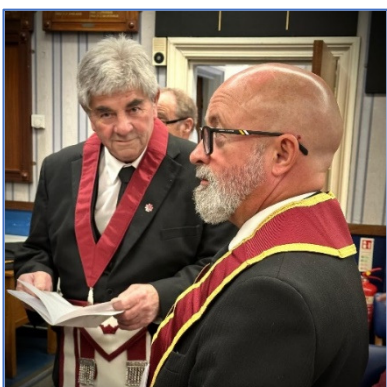
Initial settlements were in the downland areas between the River Ouse and River Cuckmere. From there, they expanded westward, with the Chichester and Selsey area becoming the political and ecclesiastical center by the 680s. The South Saxons brought their pagan religion, which replaced the existing Christianity in the region.

The kingdom existed from around the 5th century until it was absorbed into Wessex in the 9th century. By 927, Sussex, along with the other Anglo-Saxon kingdoms, became part of the newly formed Kingdom of England.



The Court of Prince Edmund

On Friday the 12th of September the members of The Court of Prince Edmund were pleased to receive our Provincial Grand Master, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and several Provincial Officers of the year to their Installation meeting.



The Court was opened by the Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Glyn Simmons, who welcomed all the visitors. After a report on the door the Provincial Marshal, W.Bro. Mickey Wiles, entered and advised the Worshipful Master that the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master was in the ante room and demanded admission to the Court.

The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, accompanied by the Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master, attended by several Officers of the year entered, was welcomed by the Worshipful Master, accepted the gavel, and took the Chair.

He said how good it was to be back at Chichester again, introduced the team, took the minutes and vacated the Chair as the Court had work to do.

The next item was to install Bro. Charlie Doe as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. This was conducted by the Installing Master and his Officers.

W.Bro. Charlie was congratulated by our Provincial Grand Master who wished him a successful and enjoyable year as Master of The Court of Prince Edmund.

After the regular business of the Court had been concluded the Court was closed and after refreshments, the members of The Court of Prince Edmund and their guests sat down to a most enjoyable meal together at the Masonic Hall in Chichester.

Photos by Satish Dhir



The Rood at Sudtone Sari Court

In October the Rood at Sudtone Sari Court Instructed another Candidate into the Order in the presence of our Deputy Provincial Grand Master, W.Bro. Bernard Marchant, KAG.



The Court was opened by the acting Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Varinder Dhir, who welcomed all the visitors. After a report on the door the Provincial Marshal, W.Bro. Mickey Wiles, entered and advised the Worshipful Master that the Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master was in the ante room and demanded admission to the Court.

The Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master attended by several Officers of the year entered, was welcomed by the Worshipful Master, accepted the gavel, and took the Chair. He said how good it was to be back at Sutton again, introduced the team, took the minutes and vacated the Chair.

The next item was to Instruct into the Order Bro. John Lionelo Foster a member of L:amborn Lodge and Wandsworthian Chapter. The ceremony was conducted in an excellent manner by the Worshipful Master and his Officers.

The Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master afterwards congratulated Bro, John and welcomed him into the Order.

The Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master was then invited to present Grand Court Certificates to Bros. Ken McIntosh, Ray Powell, and Steve Bignell. This he did in his usual entertaining way.





The Court was closed and after refreshments the brethren of The Rood at Sudtone Sari Court and their guests sat down to an enjoyable meal together at the Sutton Masonic Hall.



Photos by Satish Dhir

Sudtone is an Old English place name meaning "**south farm**" or "**southern settlement**". It is the historical name for the many places across England now called Sutton. The name is a composite of the Old English words *sūth* (south) and *tūn* (farmstead, enclosure, or settlement). It was a very common place name in Anglo-Saxon England, used to designate a settlement located to the south of another, larger village or landmark.

The Installation Meeting of the Sword of Constantine Court

On Tuesday the 14th of October the members of The Court of Prince Edmund were pleased to receive our Provincial Grand Master, Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and several Provincial Officers of the year to their Installation meeting.

The Court was opened by the Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Richard Morgan, who welcomed all the visitors. After a report on the door the Provincial Marshal, W.Bro. Mickey Wiles, entered and advised the Worshipful Master that the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master was in the ante room and demanded admission to the Court.



The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, accompanied by the Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master, attended by several Officers of the year entered, was welcomed by the Worshipful Master, accepted the gavel, and took the Chair.

He said how good it was to be back at the Sword of Constantine Court. He introduced the team, took the minutes and vacated the Chair as the Court had work to do.

The next item was to install Bro. Norman Jones as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. This was conducted by the Installing Master and his Officers.

W.Bro. Norman was congratulated by our Provincial Grand Master who wished him a successful and enjoyable year as Master of the Sword of Constantine Court.

Our Deputy Provincial Grand Master was then invited to present a Grand Court Certificate to Bro. Mark Carter, which he did in his own special way.

After the regular business of the Court had been concluded the Court was closed and after refreshments, the members of The Court of Prince Edmund and their guests sat down to a most enjoyable curry supper at the Croydon Masonic Hall.



Photos by Satish Dhir

