



Mark My Words

Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Bedfordshire

Issue 18

August 2011

Inter-Provincial Meeting



Mark Masons pride themselves on belonging to "the friendly degree" and as part of this friendship, it has become a custom that teams from Bedfordshire Mark Province and from the Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire Mark Province visit each other periodically. Such a visit was made to Stuart Lodge at the Keep on 21st April 2011 when two ceremonies took place.

Bro. Andy Routledge became a Royal Ark Mariner and Bro. Chris Taylor, IPM of the St. Peter de Merton Craft Lodge No. 7559 joined the Mark degree. Pictured are Andy and Chris with the current Stuart Mark Worshipful Master, Mick Crisp, and flanked by the PGM and Deputy from both Provinces and R W Bro Peter Rollin, the President of the General Board at Mark Grand Lodge. Needless to say, a most enjoyable evening was had by all, with over £500 being raised from the collection and raffle at the Festive Board for a local charity, the North Bedfordshire Toy Library.

Summer Lunch



In July, the summer lunch was organised once again by Terry and Sue Ogden in their usual efficient and friendly style, ably assisted by Ron, Edna, Ashley, Valmai, and Shirley plus many others who helped set up and clear away. 74 people sat down in Maulden Village Hall to an enjoyable meal washed down with supplies of liquid from the bar. Terry and Sue assure us that they are willing to carry on and the next lunch will be in July 2012. The photograph shows Terry and Sue receiving "the star" raffle prize of fruit bowls from the PGM.

Mark Travellers

The Mark Travellers are a band of Mark Masons who get together and visit other Mark Lodges in the Province. This has two main benefits in that it enables Mark Masons in the Province to meet and expand their circle of friends and also boosts the number of attendees at a Lodge meeting. You may be invited to assist the host Lodge by taking a part in the ceremony if you wish. If you are interested in joining the band of Travellers, you can contact W.Bro. John Walder on 01582 598535 or W.Bro. Bro. Dennis Perkins on 01582 866954.

New Provincial Grand Officers



At the meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge on 18 June 2011, the Provincial Grand Master re-appointed W.Bro Peter Vaughan as DepPGM, W. Bro. Martin Gray as Provincial Grand Senior Warden and W. Bro. Arthur Peill as Provincial Grand Junior Warden.

The rest of the Provincial team were appointed as follows.

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|-------------------------|-----------------|
| W.Bro. T Elliott. | Master Overseer |
| W.Bro. D Perkins. | Senior Overseer |
| W.Bro. R Wilkinson | Junior Overseer |
| V.W.Bro. K Steele. | Chaplain |
| W.Bro. D Collum. | Treasurer |
| W.Bro. R Wortley. | Registrar |
| W.Bro. G Stone. | Secretary |
| W.Bro. R Howard | DC |
| W.Bro. A Green. | Almoner |
| W.Bro. K O'Shaughnessy. | Ch Std |
| W.Bro. C Hughes. | Insp of Works |
| W.Bro. S Williams. | Swd Bearer |
| W.Bro. I Walker. | Dep Chaplain |
| W.Bro. P Burnage. | Dep Secretary |
| W.Bro. J Quince | Dep DC |
| W.Bro. T Ogden. | Senior Deacon |
| W.Bro. C Burgess. | Junior Deacon |
| W.Bro. D Bird | Organist |
| W.Bro. N Sweeney | Std Bearer |
| W.Bro. J Williams. | Inner Guard |
| W.Bro. R Clarke | Steward |
| W.Bro. I Henderson | Steward |
| W.Bro. G Duffy | Tyler |

The meeting marked the retirement of W Bro. John Luttrell from the office of Provincial Grand Secretary. He first took Provincial office as Deputy Secretary in 1998, had a

year as Senior Warden in 2004, resumed as Deputy Secretary for further 3 years and then was appointed as Provincial Grand Secretary in January 2007. He held Provincial Office continuously for 13 years and filled all his roles with great distinction and commitment, an aim that we should all try to achieve. It was fitting that his retirement was marked in some way – accordingly he was presented with his favourite treat namely a bottle of Jameson’s Irish Whisky. He was also presented with an antique ivory and silver gavel to commemorate his retirement.

The meeting was well attended with many visitors from outside the Province. A most enjoyable lunch was held afterwards attended by over 100 people including (according to the Provincial Grand Junior Warden in his toast to the PGM,) a “pride” of PGMs, a “muster” of Mark Masons and a “flush” of WCs (Worshipful Commanders!.)

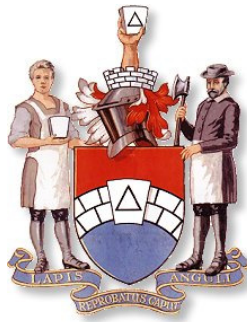
St Johns Hospice



At the Mark Provincial Grand Lodges in 2010 and 2011, the collections raised over £1200, which was donated to Sue Ryder Hospice at Mogerhanger.

Fund raising manager, Paula Priestley sent her sincere thanks on behalf of the Hospice to all Mark Masons for their generosity and offered us the opportunity to visit St. John’s to see the very valuable work that they do and to tour their facilities.

New Mark Grand Officers



At the Annual Investiture of Mark Grand Lodge on 7 June 2011, the M.W. Pro Grand Master invested W. Bro. Reg Jones as Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies. Congratulations Reg on a well deserved honour, which reflects the many hours of time and effort you contribute to Mark Masonry in Bedfordshire.



In addition, W. Bro. Alan Townsend MBE, received an appointment as

Past Assistant Grand Sword Bearer through the Province of Kent. W. Bro. Alan is presently Director of Ceremonies at both Stuart Mark and Royal Ark Mariner Lodges and was formerly Lodge Treasurer. In Kent, he holds the acting rank of the Assistant Provincial Grand Secretary.

New Members

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome into the Bedfordshire Mark “family” the following Brethren.

Stuart Mark Lodge

Bro. William Appleton. Feb. 2011.
Bro. Chris Taylor. April 2011.

Amphill Mark Lodge

Bro. George Potter. Feb 2011.

Chiltern Mark Lodge

Bro. Robert Clough. April 2011.

We hope you will come to enjoy your Mark Masonry and appreciate the pleasure of being among friends.

Forthcoming Events

- 13 Sept** Mark Grand Lodge Investiture of new Pro Grand Master
- 13 December** RAM Annual Assembly
- 12 February** Valentine’s Lunch
- 22 April** St. Georges Day Lunch
- 12 June** Mark Grand Lodge Investiture
- 16 June** Provincial Grand Lodge
- 15 July** Summer Lunch Maulden

Please make a note of these events in your Diary and look out for the flyers soon.