



HEREFORDSHIRE
PROVINCIAL
NEWSLETTER

The Craftsmen

Issue 91 - April 2024



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The Craftsmen

The Official Newsletter of the Province of Herefordshire

Issue 91 - April 2024

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Vitruvian Lodge - Andrew Moore
Eastnor Lodge - Nick Humphrey
Royal Edward Lodge - Michael Hopkins
Arrow Lodge - Tommy Santillo
Loyal Hay Lodge - Tony Mercer
Vaga Lodge - Vacant
Cantilupe Lodge - Michael Francis
Coningsby Lodge - Kevin Jones
Delphis Lodge - Vacant
Saint Peter's Lodge - Peter Hamblin
Dean Waterfield Lodge - Paul Sabel
Ariconium Lodge - Vacant

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This month's 'April Fools' Wordsearch plus answers to last month's Wordsearch.

Together with the usual 'Out and About' and 'Upcoming Events'



Bringing you news from the Masonic Province of Herefordshire

Would I know the answer?

Did I know the answer?

By W Bro Dennis W. Roberts, PAGDC

This month I asked: Honours Boards?

Some months ago a brother from Staffordshire asked me to look for his grandfather's name on an Honours Board in Herefordshire, since he believed that he had been through a Chair here. It turns out that this was indeed true and the Chair was Vitruvian. His name is indeed on the Honours Board. Success! A wonderful record for the brother whom I hope to invite one day soon to see his ancestor recorded for posterity.

It led me to think of all of the centres I have visited, and of the times when I had a few moments to share those records. The records in Cheltenham, for instance, go back for centuries, and are decorated beautifully, covering the walls of the Temple. The present Brethren continue to complete the lists, and long may it continue, for just as the Secretary should give a full record of proceedings for each meeting, so the boards record the service of the leaders at the time.

All too often we pass these boards without giving a thought. The Masonic Centre in King's Heath displays their records in the entrance hall, much the same as Hereford, and we are so busy greeting our fellows, or just mentally preparing for what we have to do at the meeting, that we just pass them by. But, just give them a moment, and the memories of friendship, happiness and perhaps of sadness, will come flooding back. Some were great leaders and examples to us all; others less so, but all had their place.

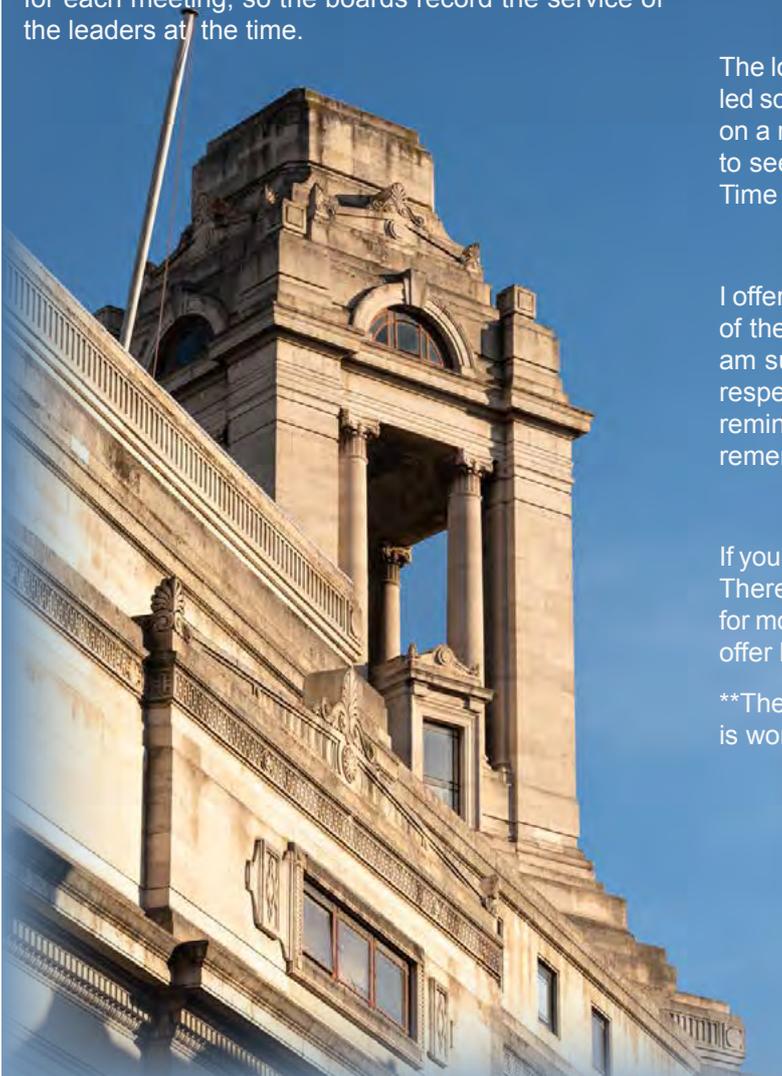
The style, materials and decoration reflect the pride of the members too. Some are simple boards with painted details; others are beautifully crafted from wood with mouldings and reflecting styles of architecture. Pure gold lettering, many hand painted, in different scripts give a variance and interest to the viewer.

The loss of meetings during the pandemic and since, has led some centres to neglect the upkeep of the boards, and on a recent visit, I will not say where, I was disappointed to see that records appear to have ceased since 2016! Time perhaps for a little 'housekeeping'!

I offer a very big thank you to all centres where members of the committee remain to complete the records, and I am sure that future generations will thank you too. The respect and honour given on the boards will continue to remind all of us who give a few moments to ponder and remember.

If you have not visited the 'Solomon' site lately, you should. There are now Videos, Podcasts and Webinars available for more in depth explanations. Facebook and Twitter also offer links for more information.

There is also a new link to Royal Arch Chapter, which is worth a look.



Out and About

A round-up of events in and around Herefordshire Province



Eastnor Second Degree

Eastnor Lodge hosted and performed a Second Degree ceremony at the request of Blundell Lodge no 5467 from Tiverton, in a most excellent manner. The pressure was on as the candidate was the PGM's brother in a literal and Masonic sense Bro Will Holland.

The Worshipful Master and team did an excellent job. The pressure was on as our own PGM, DPGM and Past PGM from Devonshire and past APMG from Metropolitan Grand Lodge were all present as guests.



Pictured Left
The Eastnor Brethren and visitors with Bro Holland

A proud evening for all.

The PGM tweeted, "Thanks to the WM and Brethren of Eastnor Lodge for their excellent ceremony and warm hospitality. You have done yourselves and the Province proud."



The Craftsmen Newsletter

Royal Edward Racing Ahead

This was another great event hosted by Royal Edward Lodge on the evening of 22nd February in aid of the Leominster Masonic Centre building fund. Seventy seven people had paid the entry fee although only seventy attended on the evening.

Peter Lavers, the promoters, produced a very entertaining eight races of eight horses each. A ninth race card had been paid for prior to the evening, so this was auctioned off with 50% of the monies going to the lucky winner and the other 50% added to the building fund. In total the monies raised for the building fund amounted to a marvellous £1,657.30.

A fund-raising raffle of donated prizes was also held in aid of the local community which generated a further £300, and was donated to the Leominster food bank.

Photo courtesy of W Bro Peter Denbeigh



Pictured Right
The Race Night in full gallop

Pictured Left
The WM, candidate and distinguished guests.



Community Engagement

Freemasons in Herefordshire play an important role in helping the local community dedicating both their time and resources to make a tangible difference to various good causes within the local area.

Two recent examples were Loyal Hay Lodge donating £1,300 to the local Dial-a-Ride in Hay on Wye to support the community transport charity and Vitruvian Lodge in Ross on Wye donating £500 to the Royal British Legion to help fund the conversion of trikes for use by veterans with physical challenges.

The Freemasons of Hay on Wye donated a cheque for £1,300 on 21st March to the local Dial-a-ride charity. The money was made up of a donation of £500 from Loyal Hay Lodge, match funded by Herefordshire Masonic Charity Foundation, and a further £300 from Loyal Hay Royal Arch Chapter. Pictured from left to right are: E Comp N H J Boothby (Loyal Hay Chapter), W Bro D P Gwynne (WM Loyal Hay Lodge), Mrs Mary Fellows (Chair, Dial-a-Ride), Ed Jones (Volunteer Driver), Sue Procter (Dial-a-Ride member), and W Bro D I Price (Charity Steward, Loyal Hay Lodge).



Pictured Left
Loyal Hay Lodge and Chapter representatives with the local Dial-a-Ride Team.

The Freemasons of Vitruvian Lodge in Ross on Wye donated a cheque for £500 to the local Royal British Legion which will go towards their trike conversion scheme. The picture shows members of Vitruvian Lodge Left to Right; W Bros Aeron Lewis, Cliff McCloskey and Tom Maguire with Graham Aplin of the Ross branch of the RBL (second from left).



Pictured Left
Vitruvian Lodge representatives with the local Royal British Legion.

Freemasonry stands out as one of the largest contributors to charitable causes in the country, with almost £1 million donated per week. Beyond monetary contributions, our members actively engage in volunteer work, making a significant impact in their communities.

Dean Waterfield Ball



The Dean Waterfield Masquerade Ball was a roaring success. More than sixty people attended, with some fantastic masks and outfits. Guests were greeted by the Worshipful Master and enjoyed a glass of Prosecco before being seated for dinner provided by the hall caterer.

Guests were entertained by a magician performing close-up magic during the meal. Following the formal toasts, guests were entertained with dancing to Silverlining Disco and the evening finished singing Auld Lang Syne as the Worshipful Master and his lady left the Ball around midnight.

Paul Sabel, Secretary of Dean Waterfield Lodge said, "We all had a great evening and we would like to thank our guests and their ladies for making the event such a success. We are already looking forward to our next event."

For other social events for all Lodges in the Province look at the events page on the members portal here:

<https://hwmwma.herefordshiremasons.org.uk/member-login/member-login/provincial-events-list-2022/>

Pictured Right
The Masquerade Ball in full swing



Pictured Left
Vitruvian Lodge representatives with the local Royal British Legion.



Visitors Gallery

Visiting is such an important part of Freemasonry.

Here are some pictures from members who have visited far and wide this month.

Why not submit your pictures to pco@herefordshiremasons.org.uk and we will publish a gallery each month.

Who will go the furthest? Can anyone go further than Tim Bridgland Taylor did in 2013?



Tim Bridgland Taylor writes,

Back in April 2013, Teresa and I visited both Sri Lanka and the Maldives.

When we arrived in our hotel in Sri Lanka, we were unpacking the cases when Teresa held up my black suit. Now Sri Lanka and the Maldives did not strike me as a place to be wearing a suit; a tee-shirt and trunks was more appropriate. I was thinner in those days and could get away wearing such sporty apparel.

My question was, "Why have you brought that with us?"

The answer. Teresa had arranged for me to visit a Lodge in Columbo, with the help of my then Lodge Secretary W Bro John Lloyd and the then Provincial Grand Secretary W Bro Mike Hopkins. It was all done without me knowing!

So, my visit was to the Leinster Lodge 115 Columbo. This was under the Irish Constitution but the ceremony of Initiation was very similar, except, at the opening five different VSLs were opened and the square and compasses placed on each, which really shows how Freemasonry respects every member religion and creed. I sat by the WM with my apron on the outside and the rest of the Brethren with their aprons inside their open jackets. The Irish way.

A fine choice of curries was had at the Festive Board. An interesting tradition however was that the Initiate had to supply all the drink! In this case two cases of Johnnie Walker Black Label whisky. It was all in all a great evening, no surprise there considering the drink supplied, and I was made so very welcome by not only the Lodge but also the Province, with the Provincial Grand Secretary turning out especially for me.

Eastnor Lodge Open Day

13th April 11am - 3pm



At the Feathers Hotel, High Street Ledbury

Everybody's welcome, why not come along and say hello?



Postcard from a successful March 2024 in Herefordshire.



New members, some great Lodge meetings and helping support the local community in Herefordshire. Looking forward to a great April 2024.



Thank you to all who contributed to our online posts during April 2024.

Send in your pictures of meetings or events to pco@herefordshiremasons.org.uk and we will publish in The Craftsmen, the Website and on our Social Media feeds.

Caeruleum Club



The Caeruleum Club Clay Shoot and Fry Up was a great success with members and guests enjoying the event at HS Activities on 16th March.

After a hearty breakfast at the Bus Stop Café in Hereford, the members moved on to the shooting. Following some initial training, the club members got their eye in with the shooting and an enjoyable day was had by all.

The Caeruleum Club is looking forward to a full programme of events for the rest of 2024.

In a time when more and more people are working from home and isolation can be a real problem, the club provides a way of socialising and coming together with like minded Masons to enjoy social events and improve your Masonic knowledge.

Founded as a 'Light Blues Club' back in 2020 just before lockdown began, it has run a series of events, usually on the third Saturday of the month. There is also a WhatsApp group enabling members to keep in contact.

A full and varied programme of events is planned for 2024 and beyond. There are a set of diverse activities including social events and the Club is looking for ways to support events for the local community ranging from fundraising to manning water stations on a charity run, community garden projects and litter picking.

The social events can be found on the website but include Go Karting, Curry Club, a Post-Cathedral Service party, and entering a team into the Inter-Province Rowing Regatta in Worcester. For anyone who would like to learn to row, the rowing team are starting training soon and will have guidance and training from experienced rowers.

For those wishing to further their Masonic knowledge, the club also runs events that provide an opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the rituals and customs of Freemasonry, but all the events enable members to socialise, learn and give back to the community in a friendly and relaxed environment.

Everyone has something to share, whether it be knowledge or an understanding and supportive ear. Each Lodge should have a Caeruleum Champion. If you do not know who yours is, then find out and if your Lodge doesn't have one, maybe you could become the Champion for your Lodge?

The club events are not just for the young and Light Blue members, they are for all Masons, friends and family members of the Province.

For further information on how to join or the planned activities, look at the website at <https://caeruleum.club> or book in for an event using our online booking page here <https://caeruleum.club/club-events/>

We look forward to seeing you at a future event and welcoming you into the Caeruleum Club.



**HELP SHAPE
THE FUTURE OF
FREEMASONRY
IN HEREFORDSHIRE**

go to www.CaeruleumClub to find out more



Membership Matters

These are the ceremonies in the Province for the rest of the month. Details of how to book in for dining and copies of the summonses are on the Provincial Members website [here](#).

Lodge	Date	Location	Meeting Business
Vitruvian	01/04/2024	Ross on Wye	Second Degree - Passing
Coningsby	02/04/2024	Hereford	Third Degree - Raising
Palladian	04/04/2024	Hereford	Second Degree - Passing
Arrow	08/04/2024	Kington	Second Degree - Passing
Royal Edward	11/04/2024	Leominster	Third Degree - Raising
Delphis	13/04/2024	Hereford	Second Degree - Passing - Old English Night
Loyal Hay	15/04/2024	Hay on Wye	See Website
Ariconium	16/04/2024	Ross on Wye	Installation
Eastnor	17/04/2024	Ledbury	Third Degree - Raising
Cantilupe	18/04/2024	Hereford	See Website
St Peter's	24/04/2024	Bromyard	See Website
Dean Waterfield	25/04/2024	Hereford	Installation
Vaga	27/04/2024	Hereford	See Website
Dean Leigh Masters	20/05/2024	Hereford	Installation
Manchester St Davids	08/06/2024		See Website
Chapter Meetings within Herefordshire			
Cantilupe	09/04/2024	Hereford	Installation
Vitruvian	19/04/2024	Ross on Wye	See Website
Loyal Hay	13/05/2024	Hay on Wye	Installation
Arrow	15/05/2024	Kington	See Website
Royal Edward	28/05/2024	Leominster	See Website
St Peter's	11/06/2024	Bromyard	Installation
Palladian	26/09/2024	Hereford	Installation

There is a matrix of all Craft and Chapter meeting dates across the Province on the Members Portal [here](#) (Login Required).

<https://hwmma.herefordshiremasons.org.uk/member-login/member-login/provincial/summonses/>



Herefordshire Provincial Golf Society

Dear Golf Brethren,

When will it stop raining? Well not for the moment it would seem, but hopefully the weather will change in time for us to start our golfing year in May.

The charity 'MNDA' are holding a Golf competition in memory of W Bro Simon Smith, to be held at Ross Golf Course on Thursday 30th May. As he was a well known Masonic member it would be good to see a strong representation of our golfing members. Details were circulated earlier in the year, but if anyone wants more information contact W Bro David Gwynne or details can be found on the members website here:

<https://hnmwma.herefordshiremasons.org.uk/events/>

At the AGM in March we voted in the following officers for the coming year.

President	RW Bro Michael Holland
Vice-President	VW Bro Graham King
Captain	W Bro Alastair Ross
Vice-Captain	W Bro David Griffiths
Treasurer	W Bro Alastair Ross
Secretary	W Bro David Gwynne



We have one other match to arrange which will be our open Championships. Details will be circulated in due course.

Finally we wish you all a happy golfing year. Our society is open to all golfers of all standards as we play for fun and the opportunity to meet up with like minded Masons from other Provinces.

Good Golfing

Dave Gwynne
Club Secretary

Provisional Dates for 2024		
Date	Venue	Details
16th May	Monmouthshire Golf Club	Away match against Gwent
23rd May	Nottingham Province Open Rufford Park Golf Club	We have recently had an invitation to join Nottingham Province in an open, in support of their 2029 Festival Appeal. This is to be held at Rufford Park Golf Club on 23 rd May 2024. The cost is £50 per player and includes coffee and bacon cob, 18 holes of golf and a hot buffet, plus normal on course challenges. There is a maximum number of 60 places, and is open to both Masonic and Non-Masonic golfers, which would allow us to make up teams of member's friends or family. We have one team interest so anyone else who is interested please let me know.
4th July	Match against Gloucestershire Wormsley Golf Club	Home match at Wormsley Golf Club on Thursday 4 th July. Tee off at 1300hrs. The cost of golf and a two course meal is £40.
23rd July	Ten Provinces Match Tewkesbury Park	Four Ball event. We are currently the holder of the trophy and I'm sure we will try and retain.
6th August	Tri-angular Match against Worcester and Shropshire Burghill Valley Golf Club	Burghill Valley Golf Club. Tee off time of 1200hrs. The cost of coffee bacon roll, golf and a two course meal is £48.



CHARITY GOLF DAY

at

ROSS-ON-WYE GOLF CLUB
HR9 7UT

Thursday 30th May 2024

In Support Of

MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE ASSOCIATION
and
St Michaels Hospice, Hereford



- Light Refreshments on Arrival from 11.00 am
 - Shotgun Start at 1.00 pm
 - Two Course Buffet Meal Post Golf
 - Auction to raise funds for the MND Association
 - Raffle
 - Team and Individual Prizes
 - Nearest the Pin and Beat the Pro Competitions
- Cost - £300 per Team of Four Players

In Memory of Simon Smith who died in September 2022 of
Motor Neurone Disease

BOOK YOUR TEAM'S PLACE NOW!

Please complete entrance form which can be found in the events section of the Provincial
Members Portal. Link below



Further details for any event go to the
Provincial Members' Website

<https://hwmwma.herefordshiremasons.org.uk/events/>

PROVINCIAL EVENTS LIST – April 2024

Date	Lodge / Chapter	Event/Venue
2024		
Sun 7 th April 2024	Widows Lunch	Masonic Hall, Kyrle Street, Hereford
Sat 13 th April 2024	Eastnor Lodge Open Day	Feathers Hotel, Ledbury
Mon 15th April 2024	Archway Presentation	Masonic Hall Kyrle Street Hereford
Wed 24 th April 2024	GRAND LODGE Annual Investiture	FMH
Thur 25th April 2024	SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER	FMH
Sat 4 th May 2024	Cantilupe Lodge Ladies Festival	Masonic Hall, Kyrle Street, Hereford
Tue 7th May 2024	Savage Ritual Demo	Masonic Hall, Kyrle Street, Hereford
Mon 3 rd June 2024	Provincial Grand Lodge	Masonic, Hall Kyrle, Street Hereford
Sat 8 th June 2024	St Peter's	Comedy Evening – Falcon Hotel Bromyard
Sun 9 th June 2024	Provincial Cathedral Service	Hereford Cathedral
Wed 12 th June 2024	UGLE Quarterly Communications	FMH
Wed 11 th September 2024	UGLE Quarterly Communications	FMH
Sat 28th September 2024	Provincial Grand Chapter G&H	Crypt Grammar School, Gloucester
Sat 5 th October 2024	Palladian	Ladies Festival (Venue to be confirmed)
Wed 13th November 2024	Supreme Grand Chapter	FMH
Wed 11 th December 2024	UGLE Quarterly Communications	FMH

FMH – Freemasons' Hall, London
LMC – Leominster Masonic Centre

Quarterly Communication

One journey, one organisation.

A bitter sweet Quarterly Comms for some in March this year as it was W Bro Malcolm Davies last as Assistant Grand Pursuivant before the investiture of new active Grand Officers at the April meeting.

A large contingent from Herefordshire attended the meeting and dined afterwards in the Connaught Rooms following an eventful train journey for many after the scheduled train broke down and the Brethren had to board an alternative to Paddington.

Following the event, the Provincial Grand Master commented via Twitter, "Thank you Brethren for your support and company today at a most nostalgic and memorable Quarterly Communication of [@UGLE GrandLodge](#), which further enhanced the indissoluble link with [@GrandChapter](#)".

Three short videos of the event can be seen on the UGLE Social Media accounts, including twitter here: [@UGLE GrandLodge](#).



An extract from the Pro Grand Master's address at Quarterly Communication.

Brethren, I have two announcements to make following on from what I have just said about the progress in implementing the Strategy and the steps we are taking to give real effect to the idea of "One journey, one organisation."

First, after nine years in office as Second Grand Principal, ME Companion Russell Race will retire at the Annual Investiture Meeting of the Supreme Grand Chapter. Companion Race has served at the highest levels within London and Supreme Grand Chapter and Grand Lodge for the last twenty years and we owe him a significant debt of gratitude for all that he has done in that time. I shall have an opportunity to say rather more about this at the investiture meeting in April.

In order to emphasise tangibly the commitment of the Rulers to the importance of the Strategy for the Craft and Royal Arch, working seamlessly together at all levels and giving clear support to the concept of "One journey, one organisation", I am very pleased to announce the MW The Grand Master, in his capacity as First Grand Principal, has appointed ME Companion Sir David Wootton to be Second Grand Principal. Companion Wootton will bring his considerable leadership talents and skills to bear in supporting the Royal Arch and Craft, working in tandem and ensuring proper effect is given to the Strategy overall and in particular its delivery for the Royal Arch. Companion Wootton will be installed at the Annual Investiture of Supreme Grand Chapter in April.

To succeed RW Brother Wootton as Deputy Grand Master, I am delighted to announce the MW The Grand Master has appointed RW Brother Sir Michael Snyder to that office. As you have already heard, Brother Snyder will retire as Metropolitan Grand Master on 17th April and he will be installed as Deputy Grand Master at the Craft Annual Investiture meeting on 24th April.

Brother Wootton will continue to lead, and will complete, the Third Pillar Review of our engagement with our communities, of which he is Chairman, and which will report before Christmas.

Brethren, I am delighted to announce that the MW The Grand Master has appointed RW Bro Warren Duke, PJGW, as Metropolitan Grand Master for, and Metropolitan Grand Superintendent in and over, London, with effect from 18 April 2024, in succession to RW Bro Sir Michael Snyder, who will retire on 17 April 2024. Bro Duke will be installed on a date to be arranged.

MW Bro Jonathan Spence, DL
Pro Grand Master



Read the MCF Impact Report for 2023 to see the wide range of help provided during 2022/23

https://mcf.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/4400_MCF_ImpactReport_23_AW_V3Spreads.pdf



MCF Grants In Herefordshire

From 1st April 2023 to 29th February 2024 we have received the following grants as a Province.



26
Grants



£99,507
The value of grants
awarded

These applications covered a wide range of uses.

Please see the link below to show what can be applied for:

<https://mcf.org.uk/get-support/grants-to-charities/>



Over the last five years for the period from

1st April 2019 to 29th March 2024

in Herefordshire, we have received a total of

177 Grants totalling £457,615.

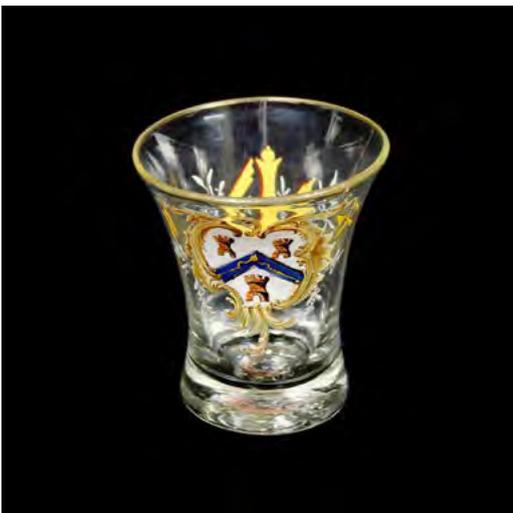
Masonic Firing Glasses

W Bro Geoff Wilding – Royal Edward Lodge No 892

It was a rest weekend in the Six Nations rugby tournament and so we had our usual Sunday viewing staple, the Antiques Road Show on as the backdrop to the evening, when I noticed the camera cut to the show's glass expert, Andy McConnell, who was stood in bright sunshine by a pedestal on which were displayed two ornate Masonic firing glasses.



The front and back of a similar William Beilby enamelled firing glass, courtesy of the Museum of Freemasonry



As usually happens, Andy asked the owner how they had come by them, and they replied that they had bought them in an online auction. Andy then asked if they minded saying how much they had paid for them, and was told that after a low opening bid, and in a contest with a another determined bidder, their securing bid was close to £6,000.

I thought, “Good luck with that, then.”

However, Andy proceeded to explain that the firing glasses had been created in the mid to late 1700's by the famous William Beilby, who is thought to be the first person to successfully produce highly decorative enamelling on glass, and who went on to produce spectacular pieces of commemorative glassware, some of which are to be found in all the great museums around the world. He said that they would have cost a lot of money when made and that even if damaged pieces come on to the market today, they can be worth many thousands of pounds.

Andy ended the piece by saying that the British Museum had recently paid £12,000 for a set of similar glasses, and other sets had been sold reaching figures of £8,000 and £6,000. So, in his opinion, if the glasses on the plinth were sold at auction today, they could easily fetch a sum of £16,000.

Just imagine, if you had been the lucky recipient of the firing glasses when new, might you have risked pouring a drop of fine claret into them, swiftly knocking it back and then smartly cracking the base on the table in a 'Fire'. I don't think I would, but it did get me thinking about firing glasses in general. What they were? How they came about? And the way we use them today?

Evidently, the tradition of 'Firing' with a glass is not Masonic, but, as you might expect from the term, an old military one, which is thought to have originated in the French regiments during the early 18th century, replacing a festive 'Fire' tradition in which firearms were discharged to celebrate special toasts, particularly after battle successes. There is an account of a dinner held in honour of the Prince Regent, George IV, where Grenadiers Guardsmen were lined up outside and made to fire a volley at the end of each toast, and it was not unknown, back in the day, for the Royal Navy to fire cannons in honour of a toast. So, with the strong connections, which have always existed between the armed forces and Freemasonry, it can be seen how easily this tradition may have been absorbed into the early days of Lodge meetings.

The glasses version of the 'Fire' was seemingly able to create a suitable level of celebratory noise for those taking part, and was a less expensive, and probably a safer alternative. However, I do wonder how many drinking glass stems were broken in the process of banging them on the table before someone designed the firing glass we know today.

Certainly, a 'Masonic Fire' is referenced in the Samuel Pritchard book 'Three Distinct Knocks' which was published in 1785 and based on one of the Masonic Exposures that were serialised in the 1723 London newspapers and detailed the ceremonies and after proceedings as practiced by the Antients.

Every Man has a Glafs fet him, and a large Bowl of Punch, or what they like, is fet in the Center of the Table; and the Senior Deacon charges (as they call it) in the North and Eaft, and the junior Deacon in the South and Welt; for it is their Duty fo to do, to fill all the Glaffes. Then the Malter takes up his Glafs, and gives a Toaft to the King and the Craft, with Three Times Three in the Apprentice's and they all lay Ditto, and drink all together, minding the Malter's Motion.

My thoughts then moved onto my own firing glasses, in particular the one I received after having been Worshipful Master of Arrow Lodge for the 2006/07 Masonic season.

Valueless to anyone other than myself and my nearest and dearest, but nonetheless, still a significant memento of a thoroughly enjoyable period in my life, which was commemorated with this gift, presented to me at Arrow Lodge No 2240, on the night of the installation of my successor, by the other Masters who were on the circuit at the same time.

I'm not sure when this tradition started in our Province, but my enquiries so far have managed to confirm Masters receiving commemorative firing glasses as far back as the 1980s, but I would be interested to hear information from any of the Brethren of the Province who might be able to throw further light on the tradition of Past Masters receiving Firing Glasses.

You can view the edition of the Antiques Roadshow and read the article on the BBC Website here.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0c50c8k>



Multiple Candidate Ceremonies

At the December Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, and following the launch last year of the Strategy for Freemasonry: 2022 and beyond - specifically supporting the pillar of Thriving Membership - it was announced that the MW Pro Grand Master had asked the Grand Director of Ceremonies to put together some guidance for Lodges in the form of a film, showing how an Initiation ceremony with several candidates could be undertaken.

The format of the film was to be a Lodge of Instruction – not a Lodge meeting – with the specific goals of demonstrating how such a ceremony would work, and of dispelling the myths that can be propagated about such ceremonies. Very little speech was to be involved, apart from an explanatory voiceover, and nothing “secret” was to be shown on camera.

As well as including the key set pieces of the ceremony of Initiation, the film contains an introduction by the MW Pro Grand Master, and an open discussion between RW Brother Neil Connolly, Provincial Grand Master for Hertfordshire, and Brethren who have been part of multiple candidate ceremonies, either as candidates or as Lodge Officers.

Please note that the film is not meant to be distributed to the general public.

In Herefordshire we have been fortunate enough to have a number of candidates recently. The link to the video is in the First Rising Special Edition sent out via email on the twelfth of March 2024 and is certainly worth watching.

Arrow Chapter

March Installation Ceremony

20th March saw the Installation meeting of Arrow Chapter no 2240. The three Principals were installed and a PZ's Jewel was presented to E Comp Ian Warren the IPZ.

The installed Principals were:

- MEZ E Comp Peter Collins
- H E Comp David Joyce
- J E Comp Jeff Harris

The ceremony was followed by a Festive Board which rounded off a great evening.

Thank you to E Comp Dave Headley for the photos.

One Journey, One Organisation





ARCHWAY

Companions an invitation to: **AN INTRODUCTION TO ARCHWAY**



**On Monday 15th April @ the Hereford
Masonic Hall, Hereford**

HR1 2EU - commencing at 7.00

In the Craft we have seen the launch of the **Pathway** resource document. We now have the Royal Arch resource document, **Archway**, and this introductory seminar is an invite to **ALL** Chapter members to learn about this new tool in your Chapter's preparations for meeting the challenges ahead.

Programme outline: tea/coffee – available from 6.30

- Welcome
- Setting the Scene
- Discover Archway
- Q & A

There will be a short break about 8.00 when a light finger buffet will be available. The bar will also be available. Dress code causal.

In order to ensure we cater for the number present please can you email Bob Stacey to confirm your attendance. (**Details in website - link below**)

ALL members have access to Archway via:
<https://b.ugle.org.uk/membership/archway>

BOOKING DETAILS ON THE PROVINCIAL CHAPTER WEBSITE HERE
(Login required) https://members.gandhroyalarch.orguk/?page_id=356

Companions an invitation

*The Royal Arch Province of
Gloucestershire and Herefordshire*

demonstration team proudly presents the

Savage Ritual

A permitted alternative

**On Tuesday 7th May @ the Staple Hill
Masonic Hall Downend, Bristol
BS16 5TB - commencing at 6.30**

**Companions the Provincial demonstration team will be
attending the Kingswood Chase Chapter's May the 7th meeting
where they will give a demonstration of the**

Savage Ritual.

**The Chapter is extending a warm welcome to all companions to
join them on the evening. The attendance/booking form is
overleaf.**

**The closing date for bookings is Tuesday 30th April and bookings
will be accepted on a first come basis.**

**Further details and booking form can be found on
the Provincial Website here. (login required)**

https://members.gandhroyalarch.org.uk/?page_id=398?

The Percentage Club



Private Society Lottery "The Percentage Club"

Members are invited to participate in a simple lottery run on a basis similar to those commonly called a 100 or 200 Club, but to accommodate varying numbers it is called "The Percentage Club".

To explain I list the following rules:

- four draws per year: September, December, January, March
- members may purchase one or more numbers for themselves or family, all numbers have an equal chance of winning
- each draw will be individual with no rollovers
- cost to be £3 per draw but to make life easier this be taken as one payment of £12 for the year, payment to be made by May 30th
- anyone joining part way through a year will pay £3 for each draw remaining
- prize value to depend on the number of participants (hence Percentage Club). As of March '24 there are 4 prizes at each draw (£150, £110, £85 £40).

Thank you in anticipation of your support.

E Comp Dennis Beale
Provincial Grand Charity Steward

The last draw was taken at Palladian Chapter at their March meeting and the winners were as below.

For further details and an entry form go to the members area of the Gloucestershire and Herefordshire Royal Arch Website here under Percentage Club (Login Required). https://members.gandhroyalarch.org.uk/?page_id=71

Place	Prize	Winner	Chapter
First	£150	Terry Adams	Gloucestershire Schools Chapter 7228
Second	£110	Ian Davies	Chapter of Sympathy 855
Third	£85	David Joyce	Arrow Chapter 2240
Fourth	£40	Jeremy Miller	Family of Vassar Smith Chapter 2994 member



ARCHWAY



Last Month's Wordsearch Solution T@3



Did you find the 'Happy Easter' themed words?

Happy Easter

F S Z H N S K S T B P N U U M T K S F W H G Y D
S X A O L G I X C F D M T B Z Y U M J U P L F F
Y G G V X C Q S X O I Z P E F H D D E S T W W T
N B Q Q I O E F L X O O X C K P Z Y C C P A L R
J K J Q F O O P N A F H T F N S Y O H K V Q D I
L E G N A V U L P R S Y Y C E N A L O P Z S A T
J F P T C V L R K I I R M G N C A B C T P V F W
V J T R Z E S E N I F O G U C R K S O S T K F L
N O O U E J S S O R C L B Z S M R C L F H L O B
W K A B L T K N O F G G V H D R I Y A D J T D O
T Y V Z E I S V M M K K X U Z T R U T W B Y I N
L G T A Y A P A S L O L A N E S R Z E R M L L N
C A J T L G F S E N N N K T R E J A S B A Y S E
O S T J X Y O X F Q U R D I G N A N D F L Q X T
M G Q Y W D F O A H E B S A C X Y M O X Q L R O
A A G N I R P S D G S E S M Y V T J J X M B P B
B Q R R P W B X A F N H Q S D F S J Q W M M O A
C G S C R C T X H X R R T R O O L T S O O C L S
Y O H L H V E B F G N I H A Q R T O S S H Q H P
U W I Z P Y T R F R I M D Z Z W C Q W I M O H E
H H X N Y F Y N A K V J H A T K D T C E W V R U
Z T H V G S B I Z F U Y O A Y X W K O E R H T W
K W V L V B N H K D O Q C T S A S R R H M S R T
L N J P X W Y G N B X V K A K F N S K C X E B V

Showers	Chicks	March	Flowers	Bonnet	Hunt	Lamb
Tulips	Daffodils	Spring	Basket	Saviour	Nest	Cross
Monday	Goodfriday	Bunny	Risen	Hotcrossbuns	Chocolate	
	Egg	Glory	Angel	Easter		



Can you find the April Fools Day words?

April Fools Day

K V V E P V O R K J E L V Y D J F N O M R J L R R X E B A E S
D T D X H S O I F D S F O H Y F L A U G H T E R D S B W Z Y F
Y S S O D X J X Z E H Y G E J E S Y F F Q J H X N Z A X A W L
C P H S P X M A O B D U N Z I I N J U S N H W G C G X Z C M A
F Z H J M M T A G E S X I Y D H E J N P C M L P A J F M E W B
P Y D F V B Y P M N F M Y G F C K S N C S D Z P P Y Q U F G O
M Q C G Q U B O R M C G A S R S B G Y C S Q K O X B A A B X D
T L G E N V C G Y A B H L V K I G C X S Q F S Z M I P A A A L
W T C D W E N G L A D S P H K M F E E R L O K O V R W O E S V
D N L B J K V E V U V L U U I W L N J J E O B E I K H X V R E
U M E L W F H I A U F J E B M Z H I U G G B O L D Q R P S J B
L Z V D X Z F O J N A Y S Y A S Y Z V X C E F M H Y X S O Z E
E G E K U F Q K S Z L C A K I B I Z E I T I Z A U L I E S K F
S I R F D U R P J T Q A F L G A N K Y O R H M E P M E S C X G
G V P R D A U D B F N O O L P J X O C S M O V F M I C G H P M
A H E V C X H Y S N O O X A J E S T T I X L C D L T Z Y A J X
G O F P K X A X U T F D N C O Z J V X S C P P T H D Y K D R D
G U W P H H X A V L Z W Q W Q Y M B P P Q H M I T P N Y X W V
I S W X R M L X F B J J R I I N K R V P P P U D F D N T V J I
O M D J O K E Y F T T F O R H F I C X A V V A C V B Q Q Z Y F
G V F A M I F O J K A B Z O Y N I X A I E Y C Q K T U K R C Q
U X B X C S X F D D Z S P N G S V Z C W M S C U R L K Q G H K
K D U A O G X F E B X O S O I T Z T C G Y G I Y B Z E A E V I
W Q R B S G Y P O K F C S I L E I O Y S Z A K R X V N R F E L
G W Q Y U G K L L G H T B W L M H L O E P N Y D P P V V S A D
P I R F N P K G T N T V H S S L P J B W A O P C M R L R B L F
U W S J F N B S V R D U Q S Q U Y T N R J Q U F A N U B R Q L
X Q E F D L A T B C I A H S C Y Z I P X N J O J T Y G S Q I K
P K M D O E J C X K D C U Y S S J C J Y C O J J X Z D F M W G
E D A F K C Y Y L X J Z K G U I I S B S L N M G C W C C T F Q
R T G G U T I X C M Z B Y J L I I A T M V D E T A R B E L E C

- Gags
- Jest
- Clever
- Chuckle
- Spring
- Playful
- Games
- Annual
- Victims
- Celebrated
- Playing
- Foolishness
- Laughter
- Wacky
- Trick
- Silly
- Hoax
- Prank
- Surprise
- Mischief
- Funny
- Joke
- Comedy
- Fool
- AprilFirst