Two New Appointments.....

At the Masonic Hall, St Saviourgate, York on August 24th the Provincial Grand Lodge was opened by Right Worshipful Brother Eric Roy Gore-Browne, Provincial Grand Master, under the banner of St Peter’s Mark Lodge No. 1008.

The meeting filled the Temple to capacity with visiting PGM’s and representatives from other Provinces, the full Provincial Team of the year and a representation of Grand and Provincial officers from North and East Yorkshire.

At the meeting the PGM presented and obligated Very Worshipful Bro. Neil Thomas Woodward P.G.J.O. as Deputy Provincial Grand Master for the ensuing two years. The Patent of Appointment was read out by the Provincial Secretary and to the acclaim of a rousing fanfare from the Provincial Organist, the new Dep. PGM was installed.

The PGM then presented and obligated Worshipful Brother Allan Cameron Scott G.J.D. as the Assistant Provincial Grand Master, also for the ensuing two years. Again the Patent of Appointment was read out and another rousing fanfare greeted W.Bro Scott into the office.

Both the Deputy and Assistant PGM’s were addressed by the PGM on their duties and qualifications for the office, which they both accepted without hesitation.

Having been absent at the Mark Convocation in May The PGM took the opportunity to Appoint and Invest W. Bro. Peter Ingham of the Victory Mark Lodge No. 1588 as Provincial Grand Treasurer and W.Bro. David H Cushing P.A.G.St.B. of York TI as Prov. Grand Tyler.

A new Provincial appointment was announced by the PGM and a very surprised W.Bro Johnathan Smith was appointed and Invested as the Prov. Assist, Standard Bearer.
A CHANGE TO THE SUMMER FAYRE

Following the Summer Fayre in July, the Management Committee held its usual meeting to discuss the event and some concerns were expressed as to the viability of running the Fayre in the future.

This year, ticket sales were down as were numbers attending and 16 Lodges did not wish to support the event by having a stall.

It was also acknowledged that Lady Lumley’s School is far from ideal to hold the event. The inclement weather that has plagued the day over past years and the uncertainty surrounding the availability of the Forest & Vale Hotel leaves little chance to generate more appeal to members and their families.

The consensus of the Committee members present was that a total re-think was needed to bring more impetus and appeal to this very important part of the Province’s social programme and it was agreed that the Summer Fayre would not take place in 2014.

Having spent some time bringing ideas forward, the overriding appeal went in favour of a Christmas Fayre and the Committee set in motion a programme of planning for the last Sunday in November 2014.

Discussions are taking place with the Management Committee of the Masonic Hall at St Saviourgate in York as this was felt to be the best venue in terms of the road network and Park & Ride facilities around the City and being near to Christmas, the availability of the shops within and on the outskirts of York.

As the project develops, regular updates will be given through the ‘Mark my Words’ Newsletter.

2014-15 WARDEN PROMOTIONS..

It is with great pleasure that the Provincial Grand Master has appointed W. Bro. Gordon Turner of Streonshall Mark Lodge No. 337, as the Provincial Grand Senior Warden and W. Bro. Alan Rooke of Beacon Centenary Mark Lodge No. 1583 as the Provincial Grand Junior Warden to be invested at the Mark Convocation at York Racecourse on 4th May 2014.

A VISIT TO GRAND LODGE....... 

Following the feature in the last issue of the Newsletter regarding the ‘Wardens Ramblings’ W.Bro Gordon Setterfield has submitted a feature to the Editor regarding the ramblings of a Grand Officer......

“Grand Lodge this June was my 25th year of continuous visits. I first attended in 1989 by using the bus from Beverley Rd Masonic Hall in Hull, in those days it was a 56 seater coach and was organised by Bill Mummy.

Over the next few years, interest waned and the size of the coach reduced somewhat, and when Bill gave up Gerry Gelder then took over the organisation, but from Gilberdyke.

After a couple of years Gerry found it impossible to get sufficient Brethren to make it viable.

I then organised an emergency 12 seater from my home town of Hornsea for that year, the following year managed to increase it to a 24 seat coach.

I used to write to each recipient of Grand Rank from the south of the Province as well as to each Lodge Secretary in the same area.

Eventually interest waned and once again we hired a 12 seat minibus, which was not at all comfortable.

Early this century, as train fares became more affordable if booked in advance, we changed to this mode of getting down to London and now average around 12/13 in our party mostly from Hornsea & Beverley.

Good times continue to come round every June and this year we again went to Chinatown as most years and where we enjoy the local specialities and beer.

When we used coaches/ minibuses the then PGM made a habit of seeing the bus depart London every year, even if it was quite late.

We were even welcomed into the ‘champagne bar’ at Connaught Rooms, even expected to buy some.

Over the years most of our party have made it to the grand temple to see our N&E colleagues honoured, but there are times when the ale has been flowing well and the late Jim Cockburn for one had to concentrate on keeping his figure up.

The good times will hopefully keep us relishing that date on 2nd Tuesday in June each year and see even more of our colleagues join us in Grand Lodge.”

Gordon Setterfield
RAM Assembly Details

The ninth Annual Assembly of Royal Ark Mariners will once again be held in The Ballroom, Royal Hotel, Scarborough, on Saturday Nov. 2nd, at 10.45, when all Royal Ark Mariners of the Province are invited to be present and afterwards have lunch with the Ladies at the Hotel.

This year the brethren will be treated to a presentation on ‘The building of King Solomon’s Temple’ presented by the Brethren of the Mark Province of West Lancashire. The brethren use a model during the presentation which measures 12’ x 12’ and finishes 6’ high!! The “Temple” presentation has been given over 500 times has raised over £88,000 toward charity, travelled 95,000 miles in the process, and visited 32 Provinces, plus one trip to Italy.

A summons and meal application are being sent to all RAM brethren by post and dining reservations should be returned ASAP. Don’t miss this very intriguing event brethren and note the starting time.

At the meeting the Provincial Grand Master will appoint and invest the following brethren:

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<tr>
<th>Promoted to: RAMGR</th>
<th>PRAMGR</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Steven Priestley. Howdeshire 743</td>
<td>Alan Lish. Beacon Cent. 1583</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geoff Eastburn. Hull 182</td>
<td>Keith Ainsworth. Rydale 277</td>
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Meeting the Mark

Middlesbrough Council of Royal & Select Masters No 221 usually hold their Meetings at Roman Road, Middlesbrough but recently decided on a switch of venue to Stokesley for a one off Meeting of “Royal & Select Masters meet the Mark”.

About 10 Mark Men attended the presentation and an explanation of the Degree was given by both Phillip Ellenor the Lodge DC and David Pratt who is the District Grand Master of the Degree for Yorkshire.

An evening of good fellowship was enjoyed by all who were present and those from the Mark Degree all found it a most informative and worthwhile evening.

Charity Walk

On Saturday, 13th July, Paul Barham took 56 willing walkers and willing drinkers to Goathland to do the Gallon Walk to raise funds for the Teenage Cancer Trust.

This event required the entrants to visit 8 Pubs in 8 miles and to drink 8 pints of beer. The event certainly proved more popular than the 3 Peaks walk which was organised last year, that’s for sure.

Paul was joined by Gordon Turner and Ron Campbell on this occasion and they planned to have a additional halfway stop at the home of David Jennings but word must have reached him because he was not at home.

Each walker raised £50 minimum and some friends of Paul, from Glasgow, raised the incredible total of £500. The Walk raised a grand total of £4,000

The first drink was at 10.15am and the trek started. The walk was very entertaining with some members in Fancy Dress which included three costume changes throughout the day.

Paul (pictured on the left with our Prov. Dep. D.C. W.Bro Ron Campbell) commented that it was worrying how fresh Ron appeared after the walk, considering he had consumed 8 pints!!
Mark my Words

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE “FRIENDLY DEGREE”

Brethren.
Editorial or correspondence will be most welcome.

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Mark my Words

PROVINCIAL TEAM VISITS

Fri. 4th Oct. Cleveland Lodge No. 1040 at the Masonic Hall Stokesley at 6.30pm.
Wed. 9th Oct. Alexandra Lodge No. 803 at the Masonic Hall Hornsea. At 6.00 pm.
Tues. 15th Oct. Alverton Lodge No. 845 at the Masonic Hall Bedale at 6.30 pm.
Wed. 23rd Oct. Victory Lodge No. 1588 at the Masonic Hall Pickering at 6.00pm.
Mon. 4th Nov. St Peter’s Lodge No. 1008 at the Masonic Hall, St. Saviourgate York. at 6.30pm.
and Saltburn Lodge No. 1532 at the Masonic Hall Saltburn at 6.30pm.
Wed. 6th Nov. Minerva Lodge No. 12 T.I. at the Masonic Hall Dagger Lane, Hull at 6.30pm.
Mon. 18th Nov. Redcar Lodge No. 804 at the Masonic Hall Redcar at 6.30pm.
Wed. 27th Nov. Lodge of St. Andrew No. 1130 at the Masonic Hall Beverley Rd. Hull at 6.30pm.
Thurs. 28th Nov. Thesaurus Lodge No. 782 at the Masonic Hall Sutton-on-Hull at 6.30pm.
Fri. 22nd Nov. Star in the East Lodge No. 95 at the Masonic Hall Scarborough at 6.30pm.

Mark my Words

MARK PROVINCIAL GOLF DAY

The annual Mark Provincial Golf Day was held at the Oaks Golf Club, Aughton Common, York. on the 9th July 2013.

What a difference a year makes! From the torrential rain of last year to the glorious sunshine this year, the event could not have been played in better conditions.

I would like to thank all the 36 golfers and friends who attended the Oaks, the Green Staff for presenting the course in such fine condition and lastly the catering and bar staff for the food and hospitality, all of whom contributed to the overall enjoyment of the day.

The main prize winners were as follows:-
John Owen Place Salver, Best Overall score: M Sharpless 39pts.
Woolgrove Rose Bowl 2nd Div 1.: Terry Dixon 34pts.
Streenshale Cup 2nd Div2: D Cushing 35pts.
C Natrass 86pts.
George Cooper Bowl: J Dunwell 38pts.

Apart from the above there were other notable scores. The White Rose Lodge consisting of M Sharpless, D Tunstall, P Barham and M Collinson also had 86pts., losing on the back nine and T Black and his three guests G Black, J Dunwell and G Sherwin with the best team score of 88pts.

We will have to find another prize next year!

The following brethren have been selected to represent our Province against the West Yorkshire Province at Cleckheaton Golf Club on 12th September 2013: N Woodward, C Bird, D Tunstall, R Chapman, T Dixon, D Gilliat, D Cushing M Sharpless, P Barham, R Williamson, D Broadley, D Kirkham, we wish them all good luck.

Neil Woodward Deputy Provincial Grand Master

MARK LODGE NEWS

On Monday 2nd September at St Saviourgate Masonic Hall the St Peter’s Mark Lodge No 1008 performed a double ceremony of Advancement. Doubles have been done in many Lodges, however this double ceremony involved a father and son who, together, were the actual advancees into the Mark degree on the night.

Brothers Anthony Charles Wilkinson and John Anthony Wilkinson expressed delight at joining the Mark in this most unusual way.

At the next Installation of the Star in the East Lodge No. 95 W.Bro. Pat Nurse will retire from the Lodge Charity Stewards office after 22 years in the post!!
Pat sends his sincere thanks for all the support the brethren have given him over the years but his health is preventing him from giving the position the effort it requires.

At the Minerva Mark Lodge, at Dagger Lane Masonic Hall Hull, on Wednesday 2nd October, MW.Bro Benjamin Addy, M W Pro Grand Master will present the Sesquicentennial Warrant to the Worshipful Master.
Following the presentation of the Sesqui Jewels to the Lodge, W.Bro MP Willoughby will deliver a short history of the Minerva Lodge.
The WM has invited all Sister Lodges of the Province to attend this very important and rare event.

Brethren please inform me if you have any interesting Lodge news. Editor.

A SPECIAL COUNCILLING SERVICE

Masonic Samaritan Fund Help with Mental Health Difficulties

In these troubling economic times many people are suffering mental health difficulties and they find it difficult to talk about it with those around them.

The Masonic Samaritan Fund now offers a support service giving therapy and counselling for a number of situations, such as feelings of depression, anxiety and stress, which are very common and can arise from difficulties such as bereavement, redundancy, family breakdown, debt or illness.

The MSF Counselling Careline is a confidential, free service, 24 hour freephone helpline operated by trained councillors who will listen and offer professional guidance.

If someone you are supporting tells you that they believe they need counselling, or that they feel the need to talk to someone in confidence about personal problems, get them to call the Masonic Samaritan Fund during office hours on 020 7404 1550.
The team at the Fund will confirm their eligibility to access the service and pass on the freephone helpline number to call.

More information can be found at www.msfund.org.uk

Mark my Words