

The Grand Council of the Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees
of England and Wales and Districts and Councils Overseas



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL
MEETING OF GRAND COUNCIL

held in the Grand Temple, Freemasons' Hall
60 Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ

on Tuesday, 22 October 2024

PRESENT

GRAND MASTER

M.W.Bro. Thomas Firth Jackson

DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

R.W.Bro. Ian Anthony Bailey

PAST DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS

R.W.Bro. Wg Cdr B. W. Price, OBE, G.Hist.

R.W.Bro. C. R. Manuel

DISTRICT GRAND PREFECTS

R.W.Bro. B. R. Mansell.....	District Grand Prefect for Spain
R.W.Bro. C. R. Woodcock, MBE	District Grand Prefect for London
R.W.Bro. R. Slater	District Grand Prefect for Severn
R.W.Bro. G. G. Cheshire	District Grand Prefect for Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire
R.W.Bro. G. P. Snape	District Grand Prefect for West Lancashire
R.W.Bro. J. L. Conway	District Grand Prefect for Essex
R.W.Bro. J. V. C. French	District Grand Prefect for Surrey
R.W.Bro. D. Guy	District Grand Prefect for Northumberland and Durham
R.W.Bro. P. Talbot, JP	District Grand Prefect for Cheshire and North Wales
R.W.Bro. G. A. Keer.....	District Grand Prefect for East Anglia
R.W.Bro. E. R. Earland.....	District Grand Prefect for Sussex
R.W.Bro. B. W. Slade	District Grand Prefect for Devon and Cornwall
R.W.Bro. J. P. A. McCollum	District Grand Prefect for West Midlands
R.W.Bro. B. Butterfield.....	District Grand Prefect for Yorkshire
R.W.Bro. S. G. Barratt.....	District Grand Prefect for East Midlands
R.W.Bro. Sqn Ldr R. W. Chevin.....	District Grand Prefect for Thames Valley
R.W.Bro. B. A. Ward	District Grand Prefect for Kent
R.W.Bro. L. J. Hinde.....	District Grand Prefect for Cumberland and Westmorland
R.W.Bro. G. Newton	District Grand Prefect for East Lancashire

PAST DISTRICT GRAND PREFECTS

R.W.Bro. J. R. Paternoster, (Hertfordshire & Bedfordshire)
 R.W.Bro. R. W. Freeman, P.Dist.G.Pref. (Devon & Cornwall)
 R.W.Bro. P. A. Norman, P.Dist.G.Pref. (East Anglia)
 R.W.Bro. C. M. Wilson, P.Dist.G.Pref. (Sussex)
 R.W.Bro. R. S. H. Hussey, P.Dist.G.Pref. (Surrey)
 R.W.Bro. R. W. Davis, P.Dist.G.Pref. (East Midlands)
 R.W.Bro. R. J. Bridger, P.Dist.G.Pref. (Thames Valley)
 R.W.Bro. R. A. Dunleavy, P.Dist.G.Pref. (Southern Counties)
 R.W.Bro. A. S. McLaren, P.Dist.G.Pref. (East Lancashire)
 R.W.Bro. R. J. Clare, P.Dist.G.Pref. (Essex)
 R.W.Bro. T. F. Auber, P.Dist.G.Pref. (East Anglia)
 R.W.Bro. C. H. Bull, P.Dist.G.Pref. (West Midlands)
 R.W.Bro. J. E. Crosby, P.Dist.G.Pref. (Cumberland & Westmorland)
 R.W.Bro. R. F. Richardson, P.Dist.G.Pref. (Sussex)
 R.W.Bro. A. D. Vickery, P.Dist.G.Pref. (Devon & Cornwall)
 R.W.Bro. P. C. Brockbank, P.Dist.G.Pref. (Kent)

GRAND OFFICERS 2023/2024

R.W.Bro. C. D. Davis	Grand Senior Warden
R.W.Bro. Dr G. J. Davies, <i>JP</i>	Grand Junior Warden
V.W.Bro. The Revd J. T. Parker	Grand Chaplain
R.W.Bro. P. Magnay, <i>DL</i> , P.G.J.W.	Grand Registrar
R.W.Bro. J. C. Roberts, P.G.J.W.	President of the Executive Committee
V.W.Bro. D. M. Heath, P.G.Reg.	Grand Secretary
V.W.Bro. G. R. Goddard	Grand Director of Ceremonies
R.W.Bro. Wg Cdr B. W. Price, <i>OBE</i> , P.Dep.G.M.	Grand Historiographer
W.Bro. M. Rankin	Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies
W.Bro. G. Bainbridge	Grand Senior Deacon
W.Bro. M. R. Constant	Grand Junior Deacon
W.Bro. K. J. Parkes	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
W.Bro. I. M. H. Bennett.	Grand Sword Bearer
W.Bro. G. S. Kirby	Grand Standard Bearer
W.Bro. M. P. Conn, <i>JP</i>	Grand Organist
W.Bro. N. J. Page	Deputy Grand Organist
W.Bro. Dr C. T. Howard	Grand Inner Guard
W.Bro. L. G. Clement	Grand Steward
W.Bro. J. B. Coulton	Grand Steward
W.Bro. M. W. L. Goldsworthy	Grand Steward
W.Bro. S. Sammakia	Grand Steward
W.Bro. P. Busby	Grand Tyler

PAST GRAND SENIOR WARDENS

R.W.Bro. R. V. Wallis, *JP*, P.G.S.W.
 R.W.Bro. N. A. B. Grout, P.G.S.W.
 R.W.Bro. P. T. Coles, P.G.S.W.
 R.W.Bro. K. J. Jones, P.G.S.W.
 R.W.Bro. A. C. Sweeney, P.G.S.W.
 R.W.Bro. G. L. Flight, P.G.S.W.
 R.W.Bro. His Hon. I. D. G. Alexander, *KC*, P.G.S.W.
 R.W.Bro. R. A. H. Morrow, P.G.S.W.

PAST GRAND JUNIOR WARDENS

R.W.Bro. D. G. Viggers, P.G.J.W.
 R.W.Bro. K. D. Kennedy, P.G.J.W.

R.W.Bro. D. J. Forster, P.G.J.W.
R.W.Bro. B. Taylor, P.G.J.W.
R.W.Bro. H. K. Emmerson, P.G.J.W.
R.W.Bro. D. Jordan, P.G.J.W.
R.W.Bro. K. Young, P.G.J.W.
R.W.Bro. T. J. Spinks, P.G.J.W.
R.W.Bro. R. F. Knight, P.G.J.W.

OVERSEAS BRETHREN

South and East Caribbean

W.Bro. J. P. Aspinall, *MBE*, P.G.St.B.
W.Bro. A. D. Bickerton
W.Bro. G. L. Kalliecharan
Bro. J. J. K. Herrera

Spain

W.Bro. I. M. Crawford, P.G.S.D., Dep.Dist.G.Pref.
W.Bro. T. Porter, P.G.J.D., Dist.G.Sec.
W.Bro. V. Climente-Valero, P.G.St.B.
W.Bro. R. A. Mitchell, P.G.St.B.
W.Bro. K. Halliwell

MEMBERS OF UNATTACHED COUNCILS

W.Bro. A. G. M. Captijn, P.G.J.D. – Progress Council No. 261 (Germany)
W.Bro. C. Pouris – Enosis Council No. 276 (Greece)
Bro. M. A. A. Abreu – St Paul's Council No. 254 (Brazil)
Bro. M. Chatzimichail and Bro. F. Sliman – Fos Council No. 280 (Greece)

BRETHREN FROM GRAND COUNCILS OF OTHER CONSTITUTIONS

The Grand Council of the Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees of the United States of America:

M.Ven.Bro. J. C. Elkinton, Sovereign Grand Master
Ven.Bro. B. B. Hildreth

The Grand Council of the Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees of Canada:

M.Ven.Bro. Dr M. D. A. Fletcher, Sovereign Grand Master

The Grand Council of the Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees of France:

M.W.Bro. C. Amine, Past Sovereign Grand Master

The Grand Council of the Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees of South East Asia:

R.W.Bro. A. R. Arul, Deputy Grand Master
V.W.Bro. Dr I. P. Ellston, Past Grand Chaplain

HEADS OF ORDERS

R.W.Bro. J. H. Prizeman, P.G.J.W.	Pro Grand Master – Mark
R.W.Bro. P. R. Clement, P.Dist.G.Pref. (Severn)	Grand Master – KT
R.W.Bro. G. L. Flight, P.G.S.W.	Grand Sovereign – RCC
R.W.Bro. K. J. Jones, P.G.S.W.	Grand Master – RSM
R.W.Bro. A. C. Sweeney, P.G.S.W.	Grand Supreme Ruler – OSM
R.W.Bro. I. S. Currans, P.Dist.G.Pref. (Southern Counties)	Grand Summus – SC
W.Bro. Dr P. Mycock, P.G.J.D.	First Grand Master Mason – The Operatives
Bro. C. G. Maiden	Grand High Priest – KTP
W.Bro. Dr V. Thomas, <i>JP</i> , P.G.J.D.	Grand Master – KBHC
W.Bro. A. W. Llewellyn, P.G.J.D.	Supreme Magus – SRIA

and a large number of Past Grand Officers, Masters, Past Masters and other Brethren.

Report of Proceedings

1. OPENING

Grand Council was opened in Ample Form.

2. IN MEMORIAM

The Most Worshipful Grand Master referred with great regret to the death of a number of Brethren, including fifty-five Grand Officers, which had occurred since the previous Annual Meeting of Grand Council. He made particular reference to M.W.Bro. Michael Edward Herbert, P.G.M., who was for fourteen years our Grand Master as well as being a friend and mentor to all; R.W.Bro. Michael James Leslie Whelan, *JP*, Dist.G.Pref. for Southern Counties; R.W.Bro. John Stuart Farley, P.Dist.G.Pref. (Far East); R.W.Bro. Ronald Webster, P.Dist.G.Pref. (South Africa); R.W.Bro. Keith Barry Jackson, P.G.S.W., and one of the most knowledgeable Brethren in the degrees beyond the Craft; R.W.Bro. Michael George Spencer, P.G.S.W.; and R.W.Bro. Bernard Leopold Neuhaus, P.G.J.W.

The Brethren stood to order while the acting Grand Chaplain offered prayer.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Grand Council held on 24 October 2023, having been printed and circulated with the summons for the meeting, were taken as read and confirmed.

4. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Report of the Executive Committee for the twelve months ended 31 August 2024, as printed in **Appendix A** of the summons, was taken as read, approved and adopted.

5. AUDITED STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2023/2024

On the proposition of the Grand Secretary, seconded by the Grand Registrar, the Audited Statement of Accounts of the Order for the financial year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023, as printed in **Appendix B** of the summons, was formally approved and adopted.

6. REPORT OF THE GRAND TREASURER

The Grand Secretary presented the Report on the Accounts of Grand Council for the financial year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024.

7. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTIONS AND REGULATIONS

On the proposition of the Grand Secretary, seconded by the Grand Registrar, the amendments to the Constitutions and Regulations, as printed in **Appendix C** of the Summons, were approved and adopted.

8. ELECTION AND PROCLAMATION OF THE GRAND MASTER

On the proposition of the Deputy Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Ian Anthony Bailey, and seconded by the Grand Registrar, R.W.Bro. Peter Magnay, Most Worshipful Brother Thomas Firth Jackson was re-elected with acclamation as Grand Master for the ensuing year.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master was then proclaimed by the Grand Director of Ceremonies as follows:

Be it known that THOMAS FIRTH JACKSON, Past Senior Grand Deacon in the United Fraternity of Antient, Free and Accepted Masons of England; Past Assistant Grand Sojourner in the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England; Past Grand Senior Warden in the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and its Districts and Lodges Overseas, and a member of the Grand Master's Royal Ark Council, *Honoris Causa*, in the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariner; Knight Commander of the United Orders of the Great Priory of the United Religious, Military and Masonic Orders of the Temple and of St John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes and Malta of England and Wales and its Provinces Overseas; Grand Inspector Inquisitor Commander 31st Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Rite under the Supreme

Council 33rd Degree for England and Wales and its Districts and Chapters Overseas; Knight Commander of Constantine of the Grand Imperial Conclave for England and Wales and its Divisions and Conclaves Overseas of the Masonic and Military Order of the Red Cross of Constantine and the Orders of the Holy Sepulchre and of St John the Evangelist; Past Grand Chancellor in the Grand Council of the Order of Royal and Select Masters of England and Wales and its Districts and Councils Overseas; Past Grand Counsellor in the Grand Conclave of the Order of the Secret Monitor, or Brotherhood of David and Jonathan, in the British Isles and its Districts and Conclaves Overseas; Past Grand Lecturer in the Grand Senatus of the Ancient and Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord in the British Isles and its Districts and Consistories Overseas; Holder of the Grand High Priest's Award in the Grand College of Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests and Order of Holy Wisdom; Past Grand Registrar in the Grand Priory of the Knights Beneficent of the Holy City of the Rectified Scottish Rite of England and Wales; Grand Master, etc., etc., etc., etc., has this day been elected and proclaimed Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Council of the Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees of England and Wales and Districts and Councils Overseas; whom may the Great Disposer of all long preserve.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master was saluted under the direction of the Grand Director of Ceremonies. The Most Worshipful Grand Master returned thanks.

9. APPOINTMENT AND PROCLAMATION OF THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

The Most Worshipful Grand Master announced that he was reappointing R.W.Bro. Ian Bailey as Deputy Grand Master for the ensuing year and addressed Grand Council as follows:

The Deputy Grand Master was then proclaimed by the Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies as follows:

Be it known that IAN ANTHONY BAILEY, Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies in the United Fraternity of Antient, Free and Accepted Masons of England; Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies in the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England; Past Grand Steward in the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and its Districts and Lodges Overseas; Provincial First Constable of the Provincial Priory of Oxfordshire, Berkshire, and Buckinghamshire in the Great Priory of the United Religious, Military and Masonic Orders of the Temple and of St John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes and Malta of England and Wales and its Provinces Overseas; Past Divisional Warden of Regalia in the Division of Thames in the Grand Imperial Conclave for England and Wales and its Divisions and Conclaves Overseas of the Masonic and Military Order of the Red Cross of Constantine and the Orders of the Holy Sepulchre and of St John the Evangelist; Past District Grand Manciple in the District of Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Buckinghamshire in the Grand Council of the Order of Royal and Select Masters of England and Wales and its Districts and Councils Overseas; Deputy Grand Master, etc., etc., etc., has this day been re-appointed and proclaimed Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Council of the Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees of England and Wales and Districts and Councils Overseas; whom may the Great Disposer of all long preserve.

The Deputy Grand Master was saluted under the direction of the Grand Director of Ceremonies. The Deputy Grand Master returned thanks.

10. ELECTION OF THE GRAND TREASURER

The Most Worshipful Grand Master gave thanks to R.W.Bro. Graham Leslie Flight, P.G.S.W., for his work in the absence of a Grand Treasurer. He then called upon his Deputy Grand Master.

On the proposition of the Deputy Grand Master, seconded by the Grand Registrar, W.Bro. James Robert Guy Hilditch was elected as Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year.

11. APPOINTMENT AND INVESTITURE OF GRAND OFFICERS

The Grand Secretary read the names of the Brethren whom the Most Worshipful Grand Master had appointed to Grand Rank for 2024. The Most Worshipful Grand Master invested those present.

GRAND OFFICERS 2024/2025

Grand Senior Warden.....	Paul William Tarrant
Grand Junior Warden	Keith Hodgson
Grand Chaplain	The Revd Justin Trevelyan Parker
Grand Treasurer	James Robert Guy Hilditch
Grand Registrar	Peter Magnay, <i>DL</i> , P.G.J.W.
President Executive Committee	Jonathan Charles Roberts, P.G.J.W.
Grand Secretary	Daniel Mark Heath
Grand Director of Ceremonies	Glyn Raymond Goddard
Grand Historiographer.....	Wg Cdr Brian Ward Price, <i>OBE</i> , P.Dep.G.M.
Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies.....	Martin Rankin
Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies.....	Mark Eric Gannaway
Grand Senior Deacon.....	Nicholas James Franklin
Grand Junior Deacon	Richard Cresswell Sutton
Assistant Grand Secretary	Derek Mersh
Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies	Kerry John Parkes
Assistant Grand Chaplain.....	Revd Howard Thomas Pashley
Grand Sword Bearer	Martin Stuart Caller
Grand Standard Bearer	Bernard Frank Marchant
Grand Organist.....	Michael Peter Conn, <i>JP</i>
Deputy Grand Organist	Nicholas John Page
Grand Inner Guard	Roy Kenneth Skelton
Grand Steward	Nicholas Rupert Bacon
Grand Steward	Mark Philip Spencer Bajona
Grand Steward	Pierre Doumit
Grand Steward	Anthony Potton
Grand Steward	Robert Dunning Stanfield
Grand Steward	Peter Gordon Wilson
Grand Tyler	Paul Busby

PROMOTIONS

Past Grand Junior Warden	
Francis Charles Spencer	John Harlow Wickes
Past Grand Registrar	
George Edward Bonham	Christopher Derek Sampson
Aloysius Gerardus Maria Captijn	Richard Peter Collingwood Strutt
Maurice Myers Evans	Alexander Thompson
James Anthony Harrison	James Bennett Truswell
Peter Hegarty	Drs Andries Johannes Van Der Burgh
Barry Antony Jones	
Past Grand Senior Deacon	
John Philip Aspinall, <i>MBE</i>	William Henry Morley, <i>BEM</i>
Francis William Clarke	Gavin Thomas O'Sullivan
Vincent John Driver	Paul Waring

Past Grand Junior Deacon

Stephen Elfan Bell
David John Blackburn
John Edward Green
James William Jordan
Roger Hayman Keys
Warren Arthur Pugh
Paul Stephen Rush

Hugh Malcolm Stoddart
Peter Randolph Thomas
Jody Alan Townsend
Samuel Tremble
Andrew Stephen Whittle
Derek Roy Wilkins

Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies

Colin Walker

PAST RANKS (FIRST APPOINTMENTS)

Past Grand Senior Deacon

David Robert Clancey
John Patrick Clendinning

Nigel Mathew Petrie
Fenton Jiu Mo Seeto

Past Grand Junior Deacon

William John Wyn Evans

David Malcolm Willmott

Past Assistant Grand Chaplain

Christos Pouris

Past Grand Standard Bearer

Christopher Terence Ballard
Bradley William Banderas Del Munns
Brendan Shu Chun Bong
David Stuart Bradbury
Peter John Brindle
Adrian Brooks
Kevan Charles Brooks
Stuart Cairns
Albert Leonard John Comber
Philip John Cuff
Roger Deacon
Hugh James Everitt
Maurice Ian Athelstan Gaskin
Barrie James Goulding

Roger Frank Guest
Gary Les Kalliecharan
Dennis Jesse Lalla
Ian Ormond Michel
John Sidney Moor
Ian Douglas Nairn
Paul David Arthur Nash
John Michael Rimmer
Ivan William Scott
Graham Rodger Thorn
Ben Trevor Williams
Jeffrey David Williams
Kevin Mark Williams
Michael Hammond Yates

Past Grand Inner Guard

Paul Stephen Berridge
Anthony Robert William Brazier
Roger Allen Cogan
Christopher John Damp
Reginald Foster
Terence Gilbert
Keith Halliwell

Charles Bowman Lowry
Henry Hewitt Marland
John Marrison
Douglas Quickmire
Peter Taylor
Reginald Albert Francis Willsher

12. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

On the proposition of the President of the Executive Committee, seconded by the Grand Secretary and carried by the Brethren, Messrs Crowe UK, LLP, Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors, were appointed as auditors for Grand Council.

13. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – APPOINTMENTS

The Most Worshipful Grand Master announced that in accordance with Rule 117 of the Constitutions and Regulations, he had reappointed the following Brethren to membership of the Executive Committee:

R.W.Bro. A. S. McLaren, P.Dist.G.Pref. (East Lancashire)

R.W.Bro. C. H. Bull, P.Dist.G.Pref. (West Midlands)

14. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – ELECTION

The Grand Secretary reported that in accordance with Rule 117 of the Constitutions and Regulations, nominations for election to the Executive Committee had been received in respect of:

R.W.Bro. R. W. Freeman, P.Dist.G.Pref. (Devon & Cornwall)

R.W.Bro. P. A. Norman, P.Dist.G.Pref. (East Anglia)

The Most Worshipful Grand Master announced that there being only two nominations for two places on the Executive Committee, he declared these two Brethren duly elected.

15. ADDRESS BY THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER

The Most Worshipful Grand Master addressed Grand Council as follows:

Brethren, I must begin by thanking you all for attending our annual meeting in such excellent numbers. It is very encouraging to look out on a sea of happy faces of Brethren once again enjoying the experience of our meeting, some possibly for the first time but also many 'old stagers' who come to support their friends on their very special day. I do appreciate that it is continuing to be difficult to plan visits to London and elsewhere. I said last year that I hoped things would improve. Well, I think that it was wishful thinking, Brethren: fewer strikes but more cancellations and the weather has not helped at all.

On a happier note, today is one of pleasure for those of our friends who have just received their first Grand Rank, and we must not forget those who have been promoted today. I do hope that these honours will encourage you to continue with your good work. We all enjoy a pat on the back as a recognition for our devotion and hard work, so well done to you all. I know how much it is appreciated by my Prefects and myself; it makes our life so much easier when we can rely on your support.

We have had quite a busy and fruitful year. There have been some changes but this is inevitable if we are to develop and grow. On 18 November, I had the pleasure of installing the new District Grand Prefect for Cumberland and Westmorland, R.W.Bro. Lawrence Hinde, in succession to R.W.Bro. Eddie Crosby who had looked after his large geographical district for many years. On 2 April, I installed as the new District Grand Prefect for East Lancashire, R.W.Bro. Graham Newton, who followed R.W.Bro. Mervyn Wilson, another stalwart of our Order. We wish the two new Prefects well for the future, but also place on record our thanks for all the hard work done by their predecessors.

I am pleased to report that our Order continues to expand, and this expansion is due in no small measure to the hard work and commitment shown by our Prefects at their District meetings and their support for each other. Thank you all and keep up the good work.

On 13 April, we consecrated St Lawrence's Treasure Council No. 285, meeting in Thessaloniki, northern Greece, bringing their number up to four Councils. At the beginning of this month we had the privilege of going to Malta to repon the St John and St Paul Council No 3. This Council began life in 1880 but became dormant in 1905, and we had the pleasure of awakening the sleeping beauty after 119 years.

As you are all aware, the Grand Masters went 'mob-handed' to South Africa earlier in the year and played many parts in many ceremonies. Witnessing a candidate being admitted into the A.M.D., some of us were reduced to carrying swords and standards, but it worked out well in the end and we were all very well received.

Brethren, time passes so quickly; it does not seem that long since I had the pleasure of investing my officers of the year and here I am thanking them for all their support over the last 12 months, but more especially for their friendship and advice – something which will continue, I am sure, for many years to come.

It is always a great pleasure to again welcome the Heads of the other Orders; you are all very busy people so your attendance here today is especially pleasing. I don't apologise but as usual it is quite a long list:

From the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons we have the Pro Grand Master, R.W.Bro. John Prizeman, P.G.J.W.;

From the Knights Templar, we have the Right Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Paul Clement, Past District Grand Prefect (Severn);

From the Masonic and Military Order of the Red Cross of Constantine, we have the Grand Sovereign, R.W.Bro. Graham Flight, P.G.S.W.;

From the Grand Council of the Royal and Select Masters, we have their Grand Master, R.W.Bro Kessick Jones, P.G.S.W.;

From the Order of the Secret Monitor, we have the Grand Supreme Ruler, R.W.Bro. Andrew Sweeney, P.G.S.W.;

From the Order of the Scarlet Cord, we have the Grand Summus, R.W.Bro. Ian Currans, Past District Grand Prefect (Southern Counties);

From the Knights Beneficent of the Holy City, we have the Grand Master, W.Bro. Dr Vivian Thomas, *JP*, P.G.J.D.;

From the Operatives, we have the First Grand Master Mason, W.Bro. Dr Paul Mycock, P.G.J.D.;

From the Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests and Order of Holy Wisdom, we have the Grand High Priest, Bro. Christopher Gavin Maiden;

and from the Societas Rosicruciana in Anglia, we have the Supreme Magus, W.Bro. Anthony William Llewellyn, P.G.J.D.

From Spain, we have R.W.Bro. Barrie Roy Mansell, District Grand Master, and his supporters;

From South and East Caribbean, we have W.Bro. John Aspinall, *MBE*, P.G.S.D. – a recipient today; W.Bro. Andrew Bickerton; and W.Bro. Gary Kalliecharan, P.G.St.B. – a recipient today;

We also have a number of members from our own unattached Councils:

From Enosis Council No. 276 in Greece, W.Bro. Christos Pouris, P.A.G.Chap., who I have had the great pleasure of investing today with Grand Rank;

Also from Greece, we have Bro. Minas Chatzimichail and Bro. Fotis Sliman from Fos Council No. 280;

From the Netherlands, we have V.W.Bro. Aloysius Gerardus Maria Captijn, P.G.Reg., a recipient today, from Progress Council No. 261 (Germany);

And from St Paul's Council No. 254 (Brazil) we have Bro. Marco Antonio Aronne Abreu.

From Grand Councils in other Constitutions:

We have from the Grand Council of the United States of America, M.Ven.Bro. John Elkinton, Sovereign Grand Master; and he is accompanied by Ven.Bro. Bryce Hildreth;

From the Grand Council of Canada, we have M.Ven.Bro. Dr Matt D. A. Fletcher, Grand Master;

From the Grand Council of France, we have their Past Grand Master, M.W.Bro. Christian Amine;

From the Grand Council of South East Asia, we have R.W.Bro. Andre R. Arul, Deputy Grand Master; accompanied by V.W.Bro. Dr Ian Philip Ellston, Past Grand Chaplain.

Quite a list Brethren but we welcome them today!

Brethren, I hope that you have all enjoyed our meeting and that you have been impressed by the smooth way things have run. This is because of the hard work that the Grand Secretary and his staff have been doing for some time: your letters of appointment were delivered, follow ups were done and designated seats allocated – hopefully the right ones. We are therefore indebted to our Grand Secretary and all his staff for their hard work, and they deserve our thanks – well done.

I must not forget to thank the Grand Director of Ceremonies and his band of helpers for the calm manner in which they have carried out their duties today, hopefully to everyone's satisfaction, definitely to mine. A heartfelt thanks to you all.

In conclusion, a sincere thank you to all Brethren for your support, not just for today but over the last year. It makes my job so easy and fulfilling. I hope that refreshment awaits us next door, Brethren, you all deserved it. Continue to enjoy your Allied Masonry, God bless you all, and I do hope, sincerely, that you have a safe journey home. Thank you, Brethren.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Grand Secretary gave thanks to those who attended the District Grand Prefects Forum for their support during his first ten months in office, as well as their executives and teams of District Grand Officers. He also wanted to record his thanks to the staff at Mark Masons' Hall for their support this year.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master then instructed the Grand Director of Ceremonies to escort the Grand Secretary to him and, with immense pleasure, promoted him to Past Grand Junior Warden in recognition of work in the past as well as for the future.

17. CLOSING

Grand Council was closed in Ample Form.

