

The Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England
and Wales and its Districts and Lodges Overseas



MINUTES
of the
COMMUNICATION
of GRAND LODGE
held on Tuesday, 13 September 2022

at 1 p.m. in the Grand Temple, Freemasons' Hall
60 Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ

PRESENT

M.W.Bro. RAYMOND JOHN SMITH
Pro Grand Master

R.W.Bro. JOHN HERBERT PRIZEMAN
Deputy Grand Master

R.W.Bro. FRANCIS CHARLES SPENCER
Assistant Grand Master

Past Deputy Grand Masters

R.W.Bro. M. E. Herbert
R.W.Bro. H. K. Emmerson

Provincial and District Grand Masters

R.W.Bro. M. A. Cooper District Grand Master for Germany
R.W.Bro. S. B. Cobham District Grand Master for South & East Caribbean
R.W.Bro. K. Hodgson Provincial Grand Master for Cumberland and Westmorland
R.W.Bro. J. Steggle Provincial Grand Master for West Yorkshire
R.W.Bro. J. Verbist District Grand Master for Belgium
R.W.Bro. B. R. Mansell District Grand Master for Spain
R.W.Bro. K. J. Hicks Provincial Grand Master for Cornwall
R.W.Bro. I. N. Clark Provincial Grand Master for Surrey
R.W.Bro. Prof. D. K. Wilson Provincial Grand Master for Durham
R.W.Bro. D. R. Clancey Provincial Grand Master for North & East Yorkshire
R.W.Bro. K. A. Beardmore Provincial Grand Master for West Lancashire
R.W.Bro. T. D. Sheern Provincial Grand Master for Essex
R.W.Bro. E. J. Rymer Provincial Grand Master for Worcestershire
R.W.Bro. M. J. L. Whelan, *JP* Provincial Grand Master for Dorset
R.W.Bro. D. A. Upton Provincial Grand Master for Channel Islands

R.W.Bro. G. J. Deacon	Provincial Grand Master for Hampshire & Isle of Wight
R.W.Bro. T. R. E. Jones	Provincial Grand Master for South Wales
R.W.Bro. M. R. Heenan	Provincial Grand Master for Staffordshire & Shropshire
R.W.Bro. P. J. Mann	Provincial Grand Master for Leicestershire & Rutland
R.W.Bro. R. A. Stokes	Provincial Grand Master for Northampton, Huntingdon & Bedford
R.W.Bro. G. R. Hicks	Provincial Grand Master for Dyfed
R.W.Bro. C. van Putten	District Grand Master for The Netherlands
R.W.Bro. E. R. Garty	Provincial Grand Master for Middlesex
R.W.Bro. P. Wills	Provincial Grand Master for Warwickshire
R.W.Bro. D. R. Powell	Provincial Grand Master for Monmouthshire
R.W.Bro. S. Rawlings	Provincial Grand Master for Bristol
R.W.Bro. S. C. Hallberg	Provincial Grand Master for Lincolnshire
R.W.Bro. P. C. Voisey	Provincial Grand Master for Somerset
R.W.Bro. I. W. Wright	Provincial Grand Master for Oxfordshire
R.W.Bro. T. Quinn	Provincial Grand Master for London
R.W.Bro. R. F. Richardson	Provincial Grand Master for Sussex
R.W.Bro. J. S. Evans	Provincial Grand Master for North Wales
R.W.Bro. R. A. Walton	Provincial Grand Master for Northumberland
R.W.Bro. D. J. Boswell	Provincial Grand Master for East Anglia
R.W.Bro. C. C. Adkin	Provincial Grand Master for Nottinghamshire
R.W.Bro. G. D. Seeman	Provincial Grand Master for Berkshire
R.W.Bro. P. D. Williams	Provincial Grand Master for Kent
R.W.Bro. J. H. Smith	Provincial Grand Master for East Lancashire
R.W.Bro. G. R. Horstman	Provincial Grand Master for Cheshire
R.W.Bro. D. R. Tilbury	District Grand Master for Gibraltar
R.W.Bro. G. Hutchinson	Provincial Grand Master for Derbyshire
R.W.Bro. M. D. Kelly	Provincial Grand Master for Isle of Man
R.W.Bro. B. P. Gargett	Provincial Grand Master for Gloucestershire & Herefordshire
R.W.Bro. S. Lee	Provincial Grand Master for Wiltshire
R.W.Bro. K. D. Bristow	Provincial Grand Master for Buckinghamshire
R.W.Bro. J. D. Harrison	Provincial Grand Master for Hertfordshire

Grand Inspector

V.W.Bro. J. R. Bain	Grand Inspector for Bahamas & Turks
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Grand Officers of the Year

R.W.Bro. T. F. Jackson	Grand Senior Warden
R.W.Bro. D. Aspinwall	Grand Junior Warden
V.W.Bro. G. Hughes	Grand Master Overseer
V.W.Bro. C. G. Maiden	Grand Senior Overseer
V.W.Bro. R. W. Odd	Grand Junior Overseer
V.W.Bro. The Revd J. T. Parker	Grand Chaplain
V.W.Bro. W. A. Divall, P.G.M.O.	President of the General Board
R.W.Bro. J. N. G. Howitt, P.G.S.W.	Grand Treasurer
R.W.Bro. His Hon. K. C. Cutler, CBE, P.G.S.W.	Grand Registrar
V.W.Bro. J. Bell, P.G.M.O.	President of the M.B.F.
R.W.Bro. R. A. Williams, P.G.J.W.	Grand Secretary
V.W.Bro. C. M. L. Davies	Grand Director of Ceremonies
V.W.Bro. V. J. Driver, P.G.J.O.	Grand Inspector of Works
W.Bro. A. E. Farrar	Grand Sword Bearer
V.W.Bro. Revd A. W. Avery, P.G.J.O.	Deputy Grand Chaplain
R.W.Bro. R. J. Olliver P.Prov.G.M. (Berkshire)	Deputy President of the General Board
R.W.Bro. D. F. Ashbolt, P.Prov.G.M. (London)	Deputy President of the M.B.F.
W.Bro. G. W. Allen	Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies
W.Bro. A. Cleightonhills	Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies
W.Bro. A. J. Brown	Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies
W.Bro. R. Wade	Deputy Grand Inspector of Works
W.Bro. D. M. Wheeler	Deputy Grand Sword Bearer

W.Bro. S. C. Finn	Grand Senior Deacon
W.Bro. P. Kelvin-Smith	Grand Senior Deacon
W.Bro. Lt Col. M. Winter	Grand Senior Deacon
W.Bro. M. J. Foster	Grand Junior Deacon
W.Bro. P. Greenwood	Grand Junior Deacon
W.Bro. Dr P. Mycock	Grand Junior Deacon
W.Bro. D. S. Rose	Grand Junior Deacon
W.Bro. B. A. Sarre	Grand Junior Deacon
W.Bro. D. M. Heath, P.G.S.D.	Assistant Grand Secretary
W.Bro. D. L. Armstrong	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
W.Bro. A. E. W. Bloxsome	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
W.Bro. P. Busby	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
W.Bro. F. W. E. Hatton	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
W.Bro. D. Mersh	Assistant Grand Inspector of Works
W.Bro. A. C. Rainbow	Assistant Grand Sword Bearer
V.W.Bro. M. Rizzardi, P.G.J.O.	Grand Organist
W.Bro. R. J. Povall	Grand Standard Bearer
W.Bro. I. P. Vincent	Grand Standard Bearer
W.Bro. D. C. T. G. Roberts-Jones	Deputy Grand Organist
W.Bro. B. M. Pady	Assistant Grand Standard Bearer
W.Bro. T. P. Sefton	Assistant Grand Standard Bearer
W.Bro. D. Topp	Grand Inner Guard
W.Bro. V. E. Murphy	Assistant Grand Inner Guard
W.Bro. G. Andrews	Grand Steward
W.Bro. P. A. H. Bowler	Grand Steward
W.Bro. M. S. Caller	Grand Steward
W.Bro. O. J. Coddington	Grand Steward
W.Bro. T. Conroy	Grand Steward
W.Bro. R. J. Cox	Grand Steward
W.Bro. S. Cox	Grand Steward
W.Bro. W. E. Davies	Grand Steward
W.Bro. S. M. Hyland	Grand Steward
W.Bro. C. A. Lemin	Grand Steward
W.Bro. F. E. Margot	Grand Steward
W.Bro. R. O'Malley-White	Grand Steward
W.Bro. J. M. B. Phillips, <i>TD</i>	Grand Steward
W.Bro. M. J. Pinckard, <i>JP</i>	Grand Steward
W.Bro. L. Smith	Grand Steward
W.Bro. S. Spooner	Grand Steward
W.Bro. R. F. Summers	Grand Steward
W.Bro. M. D. Vidler	Grand Steward
W.Bro. C. Warham	Grand Steward
W.Bro. M. J. West	Grand Steward

Past Provincial & District Grand Masters

R.W.Bro. M. Meade, P.Prov.G.M., Wiltshire (2002–2010)
R.W.Bro. A. Spencer, P.Dist.G.M., The Transvaal (2002–2010)
R.W.Bro. R. J. Wade, P.Prov.G.M., Kent (2003–2008)
R.W.Bro. G. F. W. Isaac, P.Prov.G.M., Cornwall (2004–2014)
R.W.Bro. G. E. Bonham, P.Prov.G.M., Northamptonshire & Huntingdonshire (2006–2017)
R.W.Bro. P. Hawken, <i>MBE</i> , P.Prov.G.M., Devonshire (2006–2016)
R.W.Bro. M. G. Spencer, P.Prov.G.M., Essex (2007–2015)
R.W.Bro. P. J. Sands, P.Prov.G.M., Berkshire (2007–2013)
R.W.Bro. D. J. F. Rawlins, P.Prov.G.M., Warwickshire (2007–2012)
R.W.Bro. C. D. Radmore, P.Prov.G.M., Hertfordshire (2008–2018)
R.W.Bro. P. R. Clement, P.Prov.G.M., South Wales (2008–2016)
R.W.Bro. F. J. Shaw, P.Prov.G.M., Dorset (2008–2015)

R.W.Bro. J. R. G. Hilditch, P.Prov.G.M., Oxfordshire (2012–2014)
 R.W.Bro. D. Thomas, P.Prov.G.M., Monmouthshire (2013–2018)
 R.W.Bro. C. M. Wilson, P.Prov.G.M., Sussex (2012–2020)
 R.W.Bro. P. Talbot, *JP*, P.Prov.G.M., North Wales (2012–2020)
 R.W.Bro. P. A. Norman, P.Prov.G.M., East Anglia (2010–2020)
 R.W.Bro. G. C. Craigs, P.Prov.G.M., Northumberland (2009–2020)
 R.W.Bro. A. P. Beaumont, P.Prov.G.M., Wiltshire (2016–2022)
 R.W.Bro. K. M. Blackburn, *OStJ*, P.Prov.G.M., Isle of Man (2017–2022)

Past Grand Wardens

R.W.Bro. D. K. Williamson, P.G.S.W., 2002
 R.W.Bro. J. W. Daniel, P.G.S.W., 2007
 R.W.Bro. Dr J. L. W. Wright, *RD*, P.G.S.W., 2011
 R.W.Bro. K. J. Jones, P.G.S.W., 2020
 R.W.Bro. R. A. H. Morrow, P.G.J.W., 2004
 R.W.Bro. B. A. Vickers, P.G.J.W., 2011
 R.W.Bro. A. C. Sweeney, P.G.J.W., 2015
 R.W.Bro. Lt Cdr A. P. D. Hannagan, *RD, MStJ*, P.G.J.W., 2015
 R.W.Bro. G. L. Flight, P.G.J.W., 2016
 R.W.Bro. J. A. Harrison, P.G.J.W., 2017
 R.W.Bro. I. S. Currans, P.G.J.W., 2019
 R.W.Bro. Revd B. D. Harry, P.G.J.W., 2021

Heads of Orders

R.W.Bro. P. R. Clement, P.Prov.G.M. (South Wales)..... Grand Master – KT
 V.W.Bro. G. D. A. Elgood, P.G.M.O..... Sov. Grand Commander – Ancient and Accepted Rite
 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. T. F. Jackson, G.S.W. Grand Master – AMD
 R.W.Bro. A. C. Sweeney, P.G.J.W. Grand Supreme Ruler – OSM
 R.W.Bro. I. S. Currans, P.G.J.W. Grand Summus – SC
 W.Bro. Dr P. Mycock, G.J.D. First Grand Master Mason – The Operatives
 W.Bro. C. G. Maiden, P.G.S.D. Grand High Priest – KTP
 V.W.Bro. V. Thomas, *JP*, P.G.J.O..... Grand Master – KBHC

Overseas Brethren

BELGIUM

V.W.Bro. F. Clarembaux, P.G.J.O.
 V.W.Bro. D. Shields, P.G.J.O.
 W.Bro. G. E. A. Denys, P.A.G.D.C., Dep.Dist.G.M.

CYPRUS

V.W.Bro. G. L. Goldsack, P.G.J.O.
 W.Bro. D. O. V. Hubbard

GERMANY

V.W.Bro. J. MacKinnon, P.G.M.O., Dep.Dist.G.M.
 V.W.Bro. M. A. Walton, P.G.J.O.
 W.Bro. R. Schoene, P.G.St.B., A.Dist.G.M.
 W.Bro. D. Pearson

GHANA

W.Bro. I. O. Hood, P.A.G.D.C.

GIBRALTAR

W.Bro. S. Soobiah, Dep.Dist.G.M.

HONG KONG

W.Bro. P. R. Whitmore, P.G.S.D.
 W.Bro. A. D. Ritchie, P.G.J.D.
 W.Bro. R. W. Bull, P.A.G.D.C.

ITALY

W.Bro. A. Bonechi, Dep.Dist.G.M (in charge)

JAMAICA & THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

W.Bro. H. O. Watler, P.G.S.D.

W.Bro. T. C. Smith, P.A.G.D.C.

W.Bro. R. M. Jarrett

THE NETHERLANDS

V.W.Bro. W. M. Schwab, P.G.J.O.

W.Bro. P. Kirpensteijn, P.G.S.D., Dep.Dist.G.M.

W.Bro. R. H. M. Geerdes, Dist.G.Sec.

W.Bro. E. F. Van Splunter, P.G.St.B.

Bro. W. D. J. Schepel

Bro. R. W. Okhuijsen

NIGERIA

Bro. A. K. Bakare-Olanrewaju

SINGAPORE

W.Bro. J. G. Bones, P.G.S.D.

SOUTH AFRICA (WESTERN DIVISION)

V.W.Bro. W. Marcus, P.G.J.O.

W.Bro. J. A. Darné, P.G.S.D.

SOUTH AND EAST CARIBBEAN

W.Bro. T. Sankar, Dep.Dist.G.M.

W.Bro. S. C. R. Gill, P.G.S.D.

W.Bro. G. P. B. Nicholls

W.Bro. A. G. B. Thomas

Bro. J. T. Ambrose

Bro. J. J. K. Herrera

SRI LANKA

V.W.Bro. F. J. Nilgiria, P.G.J.O.

THE TRANSVAAL

W.Bro. J. Ebdy, P.A.G.I.G.

BAHAMAS AND TURKS (Inspectorate)

V.W.Bro. P. D. Cole, P.G.S.O.

W.Bro. J. A. Carey

W.Bro. E. M. Powell

W.Bro. B. H. Roberts

Unattached Lodges

Bermuda Lodge of M.M.M. No. 33 (Bermuda)

W.Bro. M. E. Smith

W.Bro. C. D. Cross

Bro. D. S. Dill

Bro. J. Lewis

Bro. M. W. Branco

Bro. C. A. C. Brown

Itawa Lodge of M.M.M. No. 1442 (Zambia)

W.Bro. A. M. Vashee, GCDS, P.A.G.D.C.

Sierra Leone Lodge of M.M.M. No. 1797 (Sierra Leone)

W.Bro. C. O. H. Taylor

Unattached Member:

W.Bro. G. N. Pai – Dist.G.M. (Craft) and G.Supt. of the R.A. (District of Zambia)

Deputations from other Grand Lodges

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF FINLAND

R.W.Bro. K. P. Hellgrén, G.Sec.

GRANDE LOGE DE MARQUE DE FRANCE RÉUNIE

M.W.Bro. D. Paquet, G.M.

R.W.Bro. D. Fontanili, A.G.M.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF ESTONIA

M.W.Bro. K. Küttis, G.M.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF IVORY COAST

M.W.Bro. A. R. Donwahi, G.M.

Bro. C. A. Sanogo

GRANDE LOGE DES MAITRES MACONS DE BÉNIN

M.W.Bro. D. M. J. M. Doyen, Honorary G.M.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF ESPIRTO SANTO (BRAZIL)

R.W.Bro. J. H. V. D. Santos, A.G.M.

And a number of Past Grand Officers, Masters, Wardens, Overseers, Past Masters and other Brethren.

Report of Proceedings

1. OPENING

Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form and the Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master was saluted under the direction of the Grand Director of Ceremonies.

2. IN MEMORIAM

The Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master opened by remarking on the sad passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and the impact her death had had on both the nation and the Commonwealth. He added that as we mourn her passing, the Brethren think also of the members of the Royal Family who had suffered a great personal tragedy.

The Brethren stood to order whilst the Grand Chaplain offered prayer.

The Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master announced that since the last meeting of Grand Lodge the Great Overseer of the Universe had called a number of Brethren to higher service. He mentioned in particular the loss of R.W.Bro. John Douglas Arthur Platts, P.Prov.G.M. (Bristol); R.W.Bro. Roy Keith Bradley, P.Prov.G.M. (Northamptonshire & Huntingdonshire); and R.W.Bro. Dr John Horace Wickstead, P.Prov.G.M. (Devonshire). In addition, there were 42 Grand Officers detailed in the Report of the General Board.

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

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Communication of Grand Lodge held on Tuesday, 7 June 2022, which had been circulated with the Summons, were taken as read, approved and adopted.

4. REPORT OF THE GENERAL BOARD OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS

The Report of the General Board of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons for the three months ended 30 June 2022, as printed in Appendix A of the Summons, was taken as read, approved and adopted.

5. MARK BENEVOLENT FUND

The President of the Mark Benevolent Fund reported that the Trustees had approved grants to the following worthy causes during the three months ended 30 June 2022:

Youth Adventure Trust – Wiltshire	£5,450
Strongbones Children’s Charitable Trust.....	£5,750

Merlin MS Centre – Cornwall	£7,080
Cornwall Scouts	£9,460
Ambulance Aid (Ukraine) – Cheshire	£10,000
City of Goodness Orphanage Appeal (Ukraine) – Cheshire.....	£10,000
Inspectorate of Romania – Ukraine Refugee Fund	£50,000
TOTAL	£97,740

6. **NOMINATION OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER**

The Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master called upon the Grand Secretary who, in the absence of W.Bro. Glen Gary Parker, P.A.G.D.C. (West Yorkshire), gave notice of the proposed re-election His Royal Highness Prince Michael of Kent at the next communication of Grand Lodge to be held on Tuesday 7 March 2023.

7. **APPOINTMENT, OBLIGATION, INVESTITURE, INSTALLATION AND PROCLAMATION OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL PRO GRAND MASTER**

The Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master advised that, as a result of his retirement, the Most Worshipful Grand Master had been pleased to appoint R.W.Bro. John Herbert Prizeman to succeed him as Pro Grand Master. He then called upon the Grand Director of Ceremonies to form an escort and conduct R.W.Bro. Prizeman into Grand Lodge.

The Escort retired. The Brethren were called to order and the Escort re-entered Grand Lodge accompanying R.W.Bro. Prizeman, Dep.G.M., Pro Grand Master designate.

The Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master, the Installing Officer, addressed R.W.Bro. Prizeman as follows:

‘Brother Prizeman, the Most Worshipful Grand Master has been pleased to appoint you to the office of Pro Grand Master which will give you the opportunity of further service in an even more senior capacity. With this in mind, I must now ask if you are able and willing to undertake the duties of the high office to which the Grand Master has appointed you?’

The Pro Grand Master designate answered in the affirmative and knelt to receive the benefit of prayer given by the Grand Chaplain. R.W.Bro. Prizeman then took the solemn obligation of Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master and was invested and installed by the Installing Officer.

The Grand Director of Ceremonies called the Brethren to order and proclaimed the Pro Grand Master as follows:

Be it known that JOHN HERBERT PRIZEMAN, Past Junior 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 First Great Constable 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; Grand Inspector Inquisitor Commander, 31st Degree in the Ancient and Accepted Rite under the Supreme Council 33rd Degree for England and Wales and its Districts and Chapters Overseas; Past Grand Prefect 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 Grand Councillor in the Grand Council of the Order of Royal and Select Masters of England and Wales and its Districts and Councils Overseas; Past Grand Registrar in the Grand Council of the Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees of England and Wales and Districts and Councils Overseas; Past Grand Sword Bearer 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 Provincial Grand Standard Bearer in the Province of Hampshire, Isle of Wight and The Channel Islands, in the Grand Senatus of the Ancient and Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord in the British Isles and its Districts and Consistories Overseas; Past Grand Seventh Pillar, Knight of Holy Wisdom, and holder of the Grand High Priest’s Certificate of Merit in the Grand College of Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests and Order of Holy Wisdom; Past Substitute Provincial Grand Master in the Provincial Grand Lodge of

Southern Counties in the Royal Order of Scotland; Deputy Grand Master, etc., etc., etc., etc., has this day been appointed, obligated, invested and installed Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and its Districts and Lodges Overseas and of the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariner; whom may the Great Overseer and Supreme Commander of the Universe, long preserve.

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

8. APPOINTMENT, OBLIGATION, INVESTITURE, INSTALLATION AND PROCLAMATION OF THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

The Installing Officer advised that the Most Worshipful Grand Master had been pleased to appoint R.W.Bro. Francis Charles Spencer to Deputy Grand Master. He then called upon the Grand Director of Ceremonies who formed an escort.

The Escort retired. The Brethren were called to order and the Escort re-entered Grand Lodge accompanying R.W.Bro. Spencer, A.G.M., Deputy Grand Master designate.

The Installing Officer addressed R.W.Bro. Spencer as follows:

'Brother Spencer, the Most Worshipful Grand Master has been pleased to appoint you to the office of Deputy Grand Master. Although you have served in the office of Assistant Grand Master only briefly, I am delighted that you will now have the opportunity of further service in a more senior capacity. With this in mind, I must now ask if you are able and willing to undertake the duties of the high office of Deputy Grand Master to which the Grand Master has now appointed you?'

The Deputy Grand Master designate answered in the affirmative and knelt to receive the benefit of prayer given by the Grand Chaplain. R.W.Bro. Spencer then took the solemn obligation of Deputy Grand Master and was invested and installed by the Installing Officer.

The Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies then called the Brethren to order and proclaimed the Deputy Grand Master as follows:

Be it known that FRANCIS CHARLES SPENCER, Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies in the United Fraternity of Antient, Free and Accepted Masons of England; Past Provincial Grand Sojourner in the Provincial Grand Chapter of Warwickshire in the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England; Past Great Aide-de-Camp 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; Grand Elected Knight Kadosh, 30th Degree, Knight of the Black and White Eagle in the Ancient and Accepted Rite under the Supreme Council 33rd Degree for England and Wales and its Districts and Chapters Overseas; Past Grand Councillor in the Grand Council of the Order of Royal and Select Masters of England and Wales and its Districts and Councils Overseas; Past Grand Registrar in the Grand Council of the Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees of England and Wales and Districts and Councils Overseas; Past Grand Guide 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; Deputy Grand Summus of the Grand Senatus of the Ancient and Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord in the British Isles and its Districts and Consistories Overseas; A member of the VII degree, honoris causa, in the Worshipful Society of Freemasons, Rough Masons, Wallers, Slaters, Paviers, Plaisterers and Bricklayers; Assistant Grand Master, etc., etc., etc., has this day been appointed, obligated, invested and installed Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and its Districts and Lodges Overseas and of the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariner; whom may the Great Overseer and Supreme Commander of the Universe long preserve.

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

9. APPOINTMENT, OBLIGATION, INVESTITURE, INSTALLATION AND PROCLAMATION OF THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL ASSISTANT GRAND MASTER

The Installing Officer advised that the Most Worshipful Grand Master had been pleased to appoint R.W.Bro. Prof. Denovan Keith Wilson to Assistant Grand Master. He then called upon the Grand Director of Ceremonies to summon an the escort and conduct him into Grand Lodge.

The Escort retired. The Brethren were called to order and the escort re-entered Grand Lodge accompanying R.W.Bro. Prof. Denovan Keith Wilson, Prov.G.M. of Durham, Assistant Grand Master designate.

The Installing Officer addressed R.W.Bro. Wilson as follows:

'Brother Wilson, in appointing you Assistant Grand Master, the Most Worshipful Grand Master is mindful of your undoubted commitment to our Order and your record of leadership as Provincial Grand Master for Durham. I too am fully confident that you will prove yourself to be as eminently distinguished in your new office as your illustrious predecessors and I must now ask if you are able and willing to undertake the duties of the high office to which you have been appointed?'

The Assistant Grand Master designate answered in the affirmative and knelt to receive the benefit of prayer given by the Grand Chaplain. R.W.Bro. Wilson then took the solemn obligation of Assistant Grand Master and was invested and installed by the Installing Officer.

The Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies then called the Brethren to order and proclaimed the Assistant Grand Master as follows:

Be it known that DENOVAN KEITH WILSON, Bachelor of Arts with Honours of the Open University; Doctor of Philosophy of the University of Lancaster; Emeritus Professor of Management Development at the University of Sunderland; Past Grand Sword Bearer in the United Fraternity of Antient, Free and Accepted Masons of England; Past Grand Standard Bearer in the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England; Past Great Aide-de-Camp 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; Grand Inspector Inquisitor Commander, 31st Degree in the Ancient and Accepted Rite under the Supreme Council 33rd Degree for England and Wales and its Districts and Chapters Overseas; Past District Grand Master for Durham in the Grand Council of the Order of Royal and Select Masters of England and Wales and its Districts and Councils Overseas; Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies 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 Sword Bearer in the Grand Senatus of the Ancient and Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord in the British Isles and its Districts and Consistories Overseas; Past Provincial Grand Master for Durham, etc., etc., etc., has this day been appointed, obligated, invested and installed Right Worshipful Assistant Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and its Districts and Lodges Overseas and of the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariner; whom may the Great Overseer and Supreme Commander of the Universe long preserve.

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

Most Worshipful Brother Raymond Smith, P.Pro G.M., advised the Brethren that his duties as Installing Officer were now complete. The Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master took his place as presiding officer for the remainder of the meeting.

10. NOMINATION OF THE GRAND TREASURER

The Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master called upon the President of the General Board who gave notice of the proposed re-election of R.W.Bro. John Norman George Howitt, P.G.S.W., as Grand Treasurer at the next Communication of Grand Lodge on Tuesday, 7 March 2023.

11. APPOINTMENT AND INVESTITURE OF BRETHERN PROMOTED IN GRAND RANK
 The Grand Secretary read the names of Brethren who had been promoted in Grand Rank by the Most Worshipful Grand Master. The Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master invested those present.

PROMOTIONS

Past Grand Junior Warden

John Bell
 Guy David Alsager Elgood

Frank Alexander Rankin
 Jonathan Charles Whitaker, *JP*

Past Grand Senior Overseer

David Alldred
 Peter Frederick Johns

Ian Christopher Marshall Smith

Past Grand Junior Overseer

David Anderton
 John David Billett
 Malcolm Burkett
 George Clark
 John Patrick Clendinning
 Joseph Edward Crosby
 John Alexander Darné
 Evan Garfield Kildare Donaldson
 Alastair John Charles Duncan
 Nigel Harry Dyke
 Geoffrey Eastburn
 David William Kenneth Ford
 Roger Wilfred Freeman
 John Vaughan Christopher French
 Mark Francis Golding
 Anthony Charles Greene
 David Victor Hagger
 Graham Holden
 Wesley Val Hollands

Lawrence Knight
 Timothy John Joseph MacAndrews, *TD, JP*
 Howard Saul Markham
 Henry Hewitt Marland
 David Walter Miller
 Leonard John Millings
 Graham Mills
 David Lloyd Pugh
 Robert David Rice
 Peter Guy Roworth
 Willan Michael Soulsby
 Jeffrey Henry Spiller
 Clifford Mark Sturt
 Vivian Thomas
 Hak Chiu Herman Tsoi
 Peter James Wellings
 Alun Williams
 Gerald Noel Howard Young

Deputy Grand Secretary

Daniel Mark Heath

Past Deputy Grand Sword Bearer

Charles Bowman Lowry

George Robert Wood

Past Grand Senior Deacon

Keith Robert Beaumont
 Nigel Malcolm Bridges
 Antonio Da Conceicao Caloba
 Darren William Coleman-Heald
 Robert William Cowin
 Kenneth Davies
 Francis Howlett Degnen
 Garry John Errock

John Alexander Forbes
 Trevor John Tyson Heap
 Lawrence James Hinde
 Walter Joseph Janusz
 Michael Charles Parkin
 Bruce Edwin Routledge
 David William Shaw
 Terence Alfred Weston

Past Grand Junior Deacon

Leonard Abrahams
 Philip Aitken
 Peter Brown
 Matthew Redgwell Burt
 Stewart Glasgow Carley
 Arthur Joseph Clark
 David Cusworth
 John Robert William Daley
 Mark William Davis
 Frederick Leslie Davy

Russell Dearing
 Graham William George Dennis
 Robert Donald Downing
 Neil Martin Evans
 Robin Anthony Friday
 Ernest Gavan
 Martin John Hawley
 Christopher William Hill
 Alan David Hines
 Neil Russell Hurcum

Past Grand Junior Deacon (cont'd)

Stephen John Lawlor
Stephen Keith Lyon
Brian Edward Martin
John Michael McNeil
Kenneth Fred Mee
Michael Richard Neville
Michael Nolan
David Nunn
Christopher Oldfield
Geoffrey Maurice Phipps
Stephen Neil Pope
Brian Popplewell
Michael Brian Pritchard
Kevin Michael Reaney

Glenn Remblance Snr
David William Riddoch
Eric John Sarti
Alan Gordon Spearman
Avinash Manilal Suchak
Christopher Edward Summers
Frederick Richard Thomas
John Rodney Tolson
Ernst Frits Van Splunter
Adrian Leonard Verco
Nicholas St John Middleton White
David William Workman
Ling Faang Yu

Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies

Rudolphus Henricus Maria Geerdes

Peter Reginald Howard Morgan

12. ADDRESS BY THE MOST WORSHIPFUL PRO GRAND MASTER

The Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master addressed Grand Lodge as follows:

'Brethren, sadly our Grand Master cannot be with us today. It was his intention to come but he is now subject to Court mourning and I am sure you will all understand and wish to send him our very best wishes at this very sad time for his family. He has invited me to present what would have been his address to you today.'

The Most Worshipful Grand Master's Address

Brethren, I am delighted to welcome you here this afternoon and may I say how good it is to see you all. In my address to Grand Lodge in June 2018, I referred to the success of the Annual Investiture meeting which had risen to such an extent that the General Board decided that a better experience could be achieved by moving the investiture of Brethren receiving promotions in Grand Rank to the September Communication. I am delighted to say that such a move has proved to be a resounding success, and it has now become an expected characteristic of this September Communication that the Grand Temple here at Freemasons' Hall plays host to many Brethren from across the Constitution.

There can be little doubt that today's attendance is proof of the esteem in which Mark Masonry is held by all its participants and when I look around, I am heartened that so many of you have travelled great distances to be here. Brethren, our labours here today are traditionally ones of joy and celebration but this year, of course, they are tinged with sadness as the people of the United Kingdom, the Commonwealth and across the World join in mourning the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Let us recall the words spoken by the King in his address to the nation just last week when he said, 'in our sorrow, let us remember and draw strength from the light of the Queen's example'.

I am now pleased to congratulate all those whom I have had the pleasure of promoting in Grand Rank this afternoon. The award of a Grand Honour, whether it is a first appointment or promotion, is not something that is given without consideration and is a positive reflection and reward for the dedicated work that each of today's recipients has carried out. I have no doubt their preference will stimulate them still further to promote the Order at every opportunity. Brethren, change is often desirable, frequently necessary, but always inevitable. This afternoon, I have made several changes amongst the Rulers of our Order, and I am confident that the Brethren I have appointed are well qualified to lead the Order into the future. Today, Brother John Prizeman has been invested as Pro Grand Master, Brother Frank Spencer as Deputy Grand Master, and Brother Professor Denovan Wilson as Assistant Grand Master. I know that they will enjoy your support in their new roles, and I wish them every success in their future endeavours.

I would like to express my personal thanks to our retiring Pro Grand Master, Brother Raymond Smith, for his dedicated service to our Order over many years. He has always

discharged his duties in a friendly and dignified manner which has been greatly appreciated by you all, and I wish him a long and healthy retirement from active office and, together with his wife Anne, a happy future as they settle into their new home in Jersey.

In many ways today is about new beginnings. For those who have been honoured with preferment, it is the start of a new chapter in their Masonic lives. It is a time to take stock and look forward with renewed vigour; to cast off the challenges of the pandemic and to move forward positively, creating opportunities to recruit new members. But it is also a time to think about stewardship: how we can best serve our existing members and support them through the difficult times in which we live? These thoughts, Brethren, are not limited to those who have been promoted today. Indeed, they apply to us all for as we begin the new Masonic year we should think about renewal and commitment. As I reflect upon these important values, I think of the last forty years during which I have served our Order as Grand Master. Despite the many changes I have witnessed in Mark Masonry throughout the last four decades, I am proud to say that the virtues of service, commitment, resilience, ingenuity, and tolerance have remained at the heart of what we do.

During the last year, my team of Grand Officers has had a particularly busy time. In addition to installing 12 Provincial Grand Masters, undertaking the confirmation in office of another 4, and attending 28 lodge Jubilee celebrations, they also travelled to West Yorkshire and Cumberland & Westmorland to join in their sesquicentenary celebrations. The coming year promises to be just as busy with 4 installations already planned as well as 11 lodge Jubilees and 2 Provincial sesquicentenaries. And in November, we will see the constitution of the Mark District of Romania.

Brethren, we are fortunate today to have the support of deputations from other Grand Lodges and I should like to welcome them all by name. I would ask that you refrain from spontaneous applause until I have come to the end of what is quite an extensive list:

From the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Finland, R.W.Bro. Kimmo Hellgrén, Grand Secretary; from the Grand Loge de Marque de France Réunion, M.W.Bro. Dominique Paquet, Grand Master, accompanied by R.W.Bro. Daniel Fontanili, Assistant Grand Master; from the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Estonia, M.W.Bro. Kalle Küttis, Grand Master; from the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Ivory Coast, M.W.Bro. Alain Donwahi, Grand Master, accompanied by Bro. Cheick Sanogo; from the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of The State of Espirito Santo, R.W.Bro. Jorge Dos Santos, Assistant Grand Master; and from the Grande Loge des Maitres Maçons de Marque de Bénin, M.W.Bro. Dominique Doyen, Honorary Grand Master.

And from our own Constitution with their various deputations, we are delighted to welcome no less than 45 Provincial and District Grand Masters and one Grand Inspector.

I would like to conclude our welcome by acknowledging the support of the Grand Masters of the Orders administered from Mark Masons' Hall, as well as the support of R.W.Bro. Michael Herbert, P.Dep.G.M., and R.W.Bro. Keith Emmerson, P.Dep.G.M. Let us now welcome our distinguished visitors in our usual manner.

At the start of my address, I spoke about new beginnings and tomorrow the United Grand Lodge of England will open a new chapter in its history with the appointment of new Rulers. On your behalf I extend our thanks to M.W.Bro. Peter Lowndes for his contribution to Craft Freemasonry as Pro Grand Master – an office he has held since 2009. To the new Rulers, I extend our congratulations and welcome their commitment to a closer working relationship with the Orders administered from Mark Masons' Hall.

Brethren, today has been a special day and somewhat longer than usual. I am sure that you are all looking forward to the refreshment that follows so I will simply close my remarks by placing on record my thanks to the Grand Secretary and his staff for the behind-the-scenes work that makes a day like this happen, and to the Grand Director of Ceremonies and his team for the excellence of the ceremonial we have witnessed today. I wish you all a very happy and successful year in which to further the traditions of our beautiful Order, and I hope that you all have a very pleasant afternoon. May God bless you all.

13. CLOSING

Grand Lodge was closed in Ample Form