

The Ancient and Honourable Fraternity
of Royal Ark Mariner



MINUTES
of the
THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY
held on Monday, 12 December 2022

at 2 p.m. in the Grand Temple, Freemasons' Hall,
60 Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ

PRESENT

M.W.Bro. JOHN HERBERT PRIZEMAN
Pro Grand Master

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

R.W.Bro. Prof. DENOVAN KEITH WILSON
Assistant Grand Master

PAST PRO GRAND MASTER
M.W.Bro. Richard Victor Wallis, *JP*

PAST DEPUTY GRAND MASTER
R.W.Bro. H. K. Emmerson

GRAND MASTER'S ROYAL ARK COUNCIL

R.W.Bro. W. A. Divall, Pres.Gen.Bd – Chairman
R.W.Bro. His Hon. Judge K. C. Cutler, *CBE*, G.Reg.
R.W.Bro. R. A. Williams, *OStJ*, G.Sec.
R.W.Bro. C. M. L. Davies, G.D.C.
R.W.Bro. J. Steggles, Prov.G.M. for West Yorkshire
R.W.Bro. I. N. Clark, Prov.G.M. for Surrey
R.W.Bro. E. J. Rymer, Prov.G.M., for Worcestershire
R.W.Bro. R. J. Olliver, P.Prov.G.M. for Berkshire

GRAND MASTER'S ROYAL ARK COUNCIL (HONORIS CAUSA)

R.W.Bro. Dr J. L. W. Wright, *RD*
R.W.Bro. D. K. Williamson
R.W.Bro. P. Hawken, *MBE*, P.Prov.G.M. (Devonshire)
R.W.Bro. A. C. Sweeney
R.W.Bro. P. R. Clement, P.Prov.G.M. (South Wales)
R.W.Bro. C. D. Radmore, P.Prov.G.M. (Hertfordshire)
R.W.Bro. K. J. Jones
R.W.Bro. G. E. Bonham, P.Prov.G.M. (Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire)
R.W.Bro. G. Craigs, P.Prov.G.M., (Northumberland)
R.W.Bro. M. A. Cooper, Dist.G.M. for Germany

PROVINCIAL AND DISTRICT GRAND MASTERS

R.W.Bro. Justice (Ret.) M. P. H. Rubin, Dist.G.M. for Singapore
R.W.Bro. J. Verbist, Dist.G.M. for Belgium
R.W.Bro. B. R. Mansell, Dist.G.M. for Spain
R.W.Bro. K. J. Hicks, Prov.G.M. for Cornwall
R.W.Bro. D. R. Clancey, Prov.G.M. for North and East Yorkshire
R.W.Bro. K. A. Beardmore, Prov.G.M. for West Lancashire
R.W.Bro. T. D. Sheern, Prov.G.M. for Essex
R.W.Bro. M. J. L. Whelan, *JP*, Prov.G.M. for Dorset
R.W.Bro. D. A. Upton, Prov.G.M. for Channel Islands
R.W.Bro. G. J. Deacon, Prov.G.M. for Hampshire and Isle of Wight
R.W.Bro. T. R. E. Jones, Prov.G.M. for South Wales
R.W.Bro. P. J. Mann, Prov.G.M. for Leicestershire and Rutland
R.W.Bro. R. A. Stokes, Prov.G.M. for Northampton, Huntingdon and Bedford
R.W.Bro. E. R. Garty, Prov.G.M. for Middlesex
R.W.Bro. P. Wills, Prov.G.M. for Warwickshire
R.W.Bro. R. Poole, Dist.G.M. for South Africa (Eastern Division)
R.W.Bro. S. Rawlings, Prov.G.M. for Bristol
R.W.Bro. S. C. Hallberg, Prov.G.M. for Lincolnshire
R.W.Bro. P. C. Voisey, Prov.G.M. for Somerset
R.W.Bro. I. W. Wright, Prov.G.M. for Oxfordshire
R.W.Bro. R. F. Richardson, Prov.G.M. for Sussex
R.W.Bro. R. A. Walton, Prov.G.M. for Northumberland
R.W.Bro. D. J. Boswell, Prov.G.M. for East Anglia
R.W.Bro. C. C. Adkin, Prov.G.M. for Nottinghamshire
R.W.Bro. G. D. Seeman, Prov.G.M. for Berkshire
R.W.Bro. P. D. Williams, Prov.G.M. for Kent
R.W.Bro. J. H. Smith, Prov.G.M. for East Lancashire
R.W.Bro. G. R. Horstman, Prov.G.M. for Cheshire
R.W.Bro. G. Hutchinson, Prov.G.M. for Derbyshire
R.W.Bro. M. D. Kelly, Prov.G.M. for Isle of Man
R.W.Bro. B. P. Gargett, Prov.G.M. for Gloucestershire and Herefordshire
R.W.Bro. S. Lee, Prov.G.M. for Wiltshire
R.W.Bro. K. D. Bristow, Prov.G.M. for Buckinghamshire
R.W.Bro. J. D. Harrison, Prov.G.M. for Hertfordshire
R.W.Bro. B. Kirkbride, Prov.G.M. for Cumberland & Westmorland
R.W.Bro. D. C. Purdie, Prov.G.M. for Devonshire
R.W.Bro. K. J. Spencer, Prov.G.M. for Staffordshire and Shropshire
R.W.Bro. C. Mihutoiu, Dist.G.M. for Romania
R.W.Bro. D. N. Hanson, Prov.G.M. for Durham

PAST PROVINCIAL AND DISTRICT GRAND MASTERS

R.W.Bro. M. Meade, P.Prov.G.M. (Wiltshire)
R.W.Bro. R. H. H. Croucher, P.Prov.G.M. (Kent)
R.W.Bro. F. J. Shaw, P.Prov.G.M. (Dorset)
R.W.Bro. J. R. G. Hilditch, P.Prov.G.M. (Oxfordshire)
R.W.Bro. R. S. Mac, P.Prov.G.M. (Warwickshire)
R.W.Bro. D. Thomas, P.Prov.G.M. (Monmouthshire)
R.W.Bro. D. F. Ashbolt, P.Prov.G.M. (London)
R.W.Bro. C. M. Wilson, P.Prov.G.M. (Sussex)
R.W.Bro. D. E. Tremaine, P.Prov.G.M. (Buckinghamshire)
R.W.Bro. A. I. Torrance, P.Prov.G.M. (Kent)
R.W.Bro. A. P. Beaumont, P.Prov.G.M. (Wiltshire)
R.W.Bro. K. M. Blackburn, OSfJ, P.Prov.G.M. (Isle of Man)

HEADS OF ORDERS

R.W.Bro. K. J. Jones, G.M.R.A.C. (H.C.) Grand Master – Royal and Select Masters
R.W.Bro. P. R. Clement, G.M.R.A.C. (H.C.) Grand Master – Knights Templar
R.W.Bro. A. C. Sweeney, G.M.R.A.C. (H.C.) Grand Supreme Ruler – Order of the Secret Monitor
W.Bro. C. G. Maiden, R.A.M.G.R. Grand High Priest – Knight Templar Priests
W.Bro. Dr P. Mycock, Prov.R.A.M.G.R. First Grand Master Mason – The Operatives

OVERSEAS BRETHREN

BELGIUM

W.Bro. F. Clarembaux, R.A.M.G.R.
W.Bro. D. Gilbert, R.A.M.G.R.
W.Bro. L. C. Leeuw
Bro. P. Neefs

GERMANY

W.Bro. M. Walton, R.A.M.G.R.
W.Bro. R. Schoene, R.A.M.G.R.
W.Bro. J. Mackinnon, R.A.M.G.R.
W.Bro. D. J. McDougal, R.A.M.G.R.
W.Bro. M. Winter
W.Bro. D. Pearson
Bro. A. Cox

GHANA

W.Bro. M. A. F. Ribeiro

GIBRALTAR

Bro. S. Soobiah

HONG KONG

W.Bro. A. D. Ritchie

NIGERIA

Bro. R. Agwa

RIVER PLATE

W.Bro. C. A. Thompson

ROMANIA

Bro. O. S Timotin
Bro. A. Cotuna
Bro. P. C. Sachelaride

SPAIN

W.Bro. V. Climente-Valero, R.A.M.G.R.
W.Bro. I. Crawford
W.Bro. C. Langley

THE NETHERLANDS

W.Bro. W. M. Schwab, R.A.M.G.R.
W.Bro. P. W. Haans, R.A.M.G.R.
W.Bro. P. Kirpensteijn, R.A.M.G.R.
W.Bro. P. Verbeem
W.Bro. F. Janssen
W.Bro. H. Van Tuil
W.Bro. W. M. Droogers
Bro. G. J. M. Lautenslager

New Shores Lodge No. 1903 (Unattached – Austria)

W.Bro. C. Moro, R.A.M.G.R.
Bro. S. Dascal

DEPUTATIONS FROM OTHER GRAND LODGES

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF SOUTH EAST ASIA

W.Bro. I. P. Ellston

together with holders of Grand Rank in the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariner, Commanders, Past Commanders and other Brethren.

Report of Proceedings

1. OPENING

The Annual Assembly of Royal Ark Mariner 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 announced that since the last Grand Assembly, we had suffered the loss of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. He went on to note that during the last year the Supreme Commander of the Universe had called a number of Brethren to higher service, including 151 Grand Officers, who are all detailed in the report of the Grand Master's Royal Ark Council.

Particular reference was given to: R.W.Bro. Stephen Davison, Assistant Grand Master; R.W.Bro. Timothy John Lewis, G.M.R.A.C.(H.C.), Grand Secretary between 1997 and 2005; R.W.Bro. Dr John Horace Wickstead, G.M.R.A.C.(H.C.), Past Provincial Grand Master for Devonshire; R.W.Bro. Roy Keith Bradley, Past Provincial Grand Master for Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire; R.W.Bro. John Ernest Eley, Past Provincial Grand Master for Gloucestershire and Herefordshire; R.W.Bro. Norman Sydney Manser, Past Provincial Grand Master for Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire; R.W.Bro. John Douglas Arthur Platts, Past Provincial Grand Master for Bristol; and R.W.Bro. Whilston David Taylor, Past District Grand Master for Jamaica and Cayman Islands.

The Grand Chaplain offered prayer to departed merit.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Annual Assembly of the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariner held on Tuesday, 7 December 2021, which had been circulated with the Summons, were taken as read and confirmed.

4. REPORT OF THE GRAND MASTER'S ROYAL ARK COUNCIL

The Report of the Grand Master's Royal Ark Council for the twelve months ended 30 September 2022, which had been printed as **Appendix A** to the Summons, was taken as read, approved and adopted.

5. AMENDMENTS TO THE REGULATIONS

On the proposition of the Grand Registrar, and seconded by the Grand Secretary, the amendment to Regulation 1, as set out in **Appendix B** of the Summons, was approved and carried by the Brethren present.

6. APPOINTMENTS TO ROYAL ARK MARINER GRAND RANK

The Grand Secretary read the names of the Brethren who had been appointed to the Grand Master's Royal Ark Council (H.C.):

R.W.Bro. Justice Mohideen Pierre Haja, Dist.G.M. for Singapore

R.W.Bro. Derek Thomas, P.Prov.G.M. (Monmouthshire)

W.Bro. Jonathan Charles Whitaker, JP, R.A.M.G.R.

The Grand Secretary then read the list of those receiving Grand Rank in the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariners. Those recipients who were present at the Annual Assembly were then invested by the Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master.

Christopher Allan

Roger Edward Bacon

Keith Baines

John Leslie Kingsford Bannell

William Robert Barker

Eric Barrett

John Reginald Bayles

Alan Beckerton

Gordon Malcolm Beecroft

Richard John Benn

John Bentley

Ernest Wallace Bodden

Kevan Charles Brooks

Stephen Henry Brown

Paul Anthony Buxo

Phillip Carruthers

Oliver James Coddington

Machiel Johannes Combrink

Glen Coneley

Mark Andrew Cook

Ian Michael Crawford

Barry James Cummings

Forbes Michael Cutler

Howard Davis

Charles Robert Dillette

John Thomas Dodds

Kevin Andrew James Dower

Kennedy Ejakpomewhe

Martyn Patrick Farrell

Vincent Fattorusso

Roger Fielding

David Anthony Frost

Julian Alan Nicholas Frost

Mark Eric Gannaway

Peter James Gates

Matthew Carl Gibbs

Colin Ridgway Goss

Robin George Guy

Ife-Laja Fitz-Gerald Osie Hamilton-Rollings

Raymond George Harrison

Brendan Francis Harte

Malcolm Stanley Henson

Richard Hollier

Neil Hollingsworth

David Patrick Horne

Paul William Hutchinson

Franciscus Gerardus Jean Janssen

Neil Hamilton Johnstone

Christopher Howard Jones

David Jordan

John Charles Kettlewell

Malcolm John Kidd

Collin McGregor Kirton

Edward Kusminoff

Jon Richard Leech

Michael John Lewis

Mark Stuart Lloyd

Ronald Trevor Lynn

David John Lyons

Gordon Robert William MacLean

Pierre Edouard Malan

Simon McCarthy

Graeme McCormack

Donald McGarr

Brian Paul Meager

Stuart Mills

David Milner

Michael John Minns

Philip David Moore	Peter Schofield
Robin Derek Morley	Trevor Marley Sharpe
Terence James Nixon	George Stoddard William Simpson
Philip Charles Northam	Paul Bryon Skelton
Michael James Oates	William John Parker Staines
Headley Peter O'Brien	Alexander Steele
Philip Oldfield	Ravindran Suraj
Txema Oleaga-Zalvidea	Adrian Thomas
Silverio Leonard Ostrowski	Marc Vanderstock
Johannes Marcus Padman	Petrus Marinus Theodorus Verbeem
William Mason Philip	Terry Ivor Wallhead
Geoffrey Maurice Phipps	Adrian Ashley Waters
Anthony Potter	Keith George Frank Watkins
Anthony Potton	Victor George Watkins
Michael Alec Prentice	Philip Andrew Watson
Gangadharan Rajasekharan	Alan Leslie Welch
Kevin Michael Reaney	Michael James West
Miguel Augustus Francisco Ribeiro	Nicholas St John Middleton White
Paul James Rowlands	David Andrew Wilson
Jayesh Dhirajlal Sanghrajka	Markus Winter
Eric John Sarti	Tai Sing Alexander Wong
David Malcolm Sawyer	Kevin David Woodward

7. ADDRESS BY THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER

The Most Worshipful Grand Master addressed the Assembly as follows:

Brethren, I welcome you all here today, and I am greatly heartened that so many of you have chosen to attend and to receive your Royal Ark Mariner Grand Rank supported by so many of your fellow Royal Ark Mariners.

It is important to understand the Royal Ark Mariner Grand Rank is not an automatic right. Appointments are restricted by Provincial and District membership statistics, as set out in the book of Constitutions and Regulations. It is always a difficult job to select Brethren for preferment. I now congratulate all one hundred and twelve of you who I today had the pleasure of appointing to Royal Ark Mariner Grand Rank in our Ancient and Honourable Fraternity – a distinction which recognises faithful and distinguished service. I know you have worked hard in your Lodges and for the advancement of the Fraternity. This appointment is a fitting reward for all your efforts. I have no doubt that your enthusiasm and devotion to the Fraternity will help you enjoy still further the greater responsibilities you are now required to undertake, and I wish you every success in your efforts. To each of you, I send my warmest congratulations and trust that you will have many opportunities to enjoy your new status. The award of a Grand Honour is a positive reflection of, and reward for, the work that each of today's recipients has carried out and I have no doubt that their preferment will stimulate them to promote the Fraternity still further.

I feel sure that the spirit of optimism still prevails amongst us as we embark on the one hundred and first year since our beautiful Order came under the administration of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons and The Grand Master's Royal Ark Council; that our collective reaction to the storms and anxieties we face in the outside world at the present time, will positively influence the way in which our Order develops and that heritage will be the foundation on which we will build our future. I always look on our individual progress in Freemasonry not as a career but a journey such as our circumstances permit. On every journey in life, it is good to enjoy the company of a companion and I urge you to look upon all the Orders of Freemasonry as Companion and Complimentary Orders.

I am now delighted to welcome representatives from our own constitution from overseas, I would ask you to refrain from spontaneous applause until I have come to the end of the list:

From the District of Singapore, R.W.Bro. Justice Mohideen Rubin, the District Grand Master;

From the District of Belgium, R.W.Bro. Jean Verbist, District Grand Master, accompanied by W.Bro. Francis Clarembaux, R.A.M.G.R., and W.Bro. Denys Gilbert, R.A.M.G.R.;

From the District of Germany, R.W.Bro. Michael Cooper, G.M.R.A.C.(H.C.), District Grand Master, accompanied by W.Bro. Mark Walton, R.A.M.G.R.; W.Bro. Ruediger Schoene, R.A.M.G.R.; W.Bro. John Mackinnon, R.A.M.G.R.; W.Bro. David J. McDougal, R.A.M.G.R.; W.Bro. Markus Winter, a recipient of R.A.M.G.R. today; W.Bro. David Pearson and Bro. Andrew Cox;

From the District of Ghana, W.Bro. Miguel Augustus Francisco Ribeiro, a recipient of R.A.M.G.R. today;

From the District of Gibraltar, Bro. Selvan Soobiah;

From the District of Hong Kong, W.Bro. Andrew Douglas Ritchie;

From the District of Nigeria, Bro. Richard Terwase Agwa;

From the District of River Plate, W.Bro. Carlos A. Thompson;

From the District of Romania, Bro. Octavian S. Timotin, accompanied by Bro. Alexandru Cotuna and Bro. Pan Corin Sachelaride;

From the District of South Africa – Eastern Division, R.W.Bro. Richard Poole, Dist.G.M.;

From the District of Spain, R.W.Bro. Barrie R. Mansell, Dist.G.M., accompanied by W.Bro. Vicente Climente-Valero, R.A.M.G.R., W.Bro. Ian Crawford, a recipient of R.A.M.G.R. today, and W.Bro. Christopher Langley;

From the District of The Netherlands, W.Bro. Werner M Schwab, R.A.M.G.R.; accompanied by W.Bro. Pieter W. Haans, R.A.M.G.R.; W.Bro. Peter Kirpensteijn, R.A.M.G.R.; W.Bro. Peter Verbeem, a recipient of R.A.M.G.R. today; W.Bro. Frank Janssen, another recipient of R.A.M.G.R. today; W.Bro. Henk Van Tuil; W.Bro. Willem Matthieu Droogers and Bro. Gerardus J. M. Lautenslager;

Brethren, from our Unattached Lodge, New Shores No.1903: W.Bro. Celestino Moro, R.A.M.G.R., accompanied by Bro. Silviu Dascal;

From Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of South East Asia, W.Bro. Ian P. Ellston;

From here at home, M.W.Bro. Richard Wallis, P.Pro.G.M., R.W.Bro. Michael Herbert, P.Dep.G.M., and R.W.Bro. Keith Emmerson, P.Dep.G.M.

And lastly our Heads of other Orders:

R.W.Bro. Paul R. Clement, the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master of the Knights Templar;

R.W.Bro. Kessick J. Jones, Grand Master of the Grand Council of the Order of Royal and Select Masters;

R.W.Bro. Andrew C. Sweeney, Grand Supreme Ruler of the Grand Conclave of the Order of the Secret Monitor;

R.W.Bro. David Williamson, Lieutenant Grand Commander of the Ancient and Accepted Rite;

W.Bro. Christopher G. Maiden, Grand High Priest of the Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests and Order of Holy Wisdom;

W.Bro. Dr Paul Mycock, First Grand Master Mason of the Operatives.

Brethren, I leave you with this thought. In many ways our Fraternity is unique. It is ruled by the Grand Master's Royal Ark Council, and I as Pro Grand Master of the Mark am, by default, Pro Grand Master of the Royal Ark Mariner. Unfortunately, in my opinion not Pro Grand Commander. Looking around this Grand Assembly, there is little to distinguish us by the rank we hold which I believe only serves to illustrate one of the great attributes of the Fraternity: that we are all equal in the eyes of the Supreme Commander of the Universe and, borrowing from our ritual, "that the highest is he who performs his part the best not he who fills the most exalted position".

I am sure that you are all looking forward to the refreshment that follows. To those of you who are unable to stay and dine because of your concerns for onward travel, I wish you a safe journey and speedy return home. I will conclude my remarks by placing on record my thanks to the Grand Secretary, the Deputy Grand Secretary and all the staff at Mark Masons' Hall for all their work in preparing for today, and the Grand Director of Ceremonies and his team for the excellence of the ceremonial we have witnessed.

I wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year, and may our ancient and Honourable Fraternity continue to flourish in the year to come as I am sure it will with your enthusiasm and the blessing of the Supreme Commander of the Universe.

8. CLOSING

The Annual Assembly of Royal Ark Mariner was closed in due and ample form.