

The Order of the Secret Monitor or Brotherhood of David and Jonathan
in the British Isles and its Districts and Conclaves Overseas



MINUTES
of the
One Hundred and Thirty-Seventh Annual Convocation
and Annual Investiture of Grand Conclave held on
Thursday, 13 November 2025

at 12.30 p.m. in the Grand Temple, Freemasons' Hall,
60 Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ

PRESENT

GRAND SUPREME RULER
M.Wy.Bro. Andrew Christopher Sweeney

DEPUTY GRAND SUPREME RULER
R.Wy.Bro. Keith Berwick Ferguson

ASSISTANT GRAND SUPREME RULER
R.Wy.Bro. Gasper Llewellyn Gill, *SLMM*

PAST GRAND SUPREME RULER
M.Wy.Bro. P. R. Clement

PAST DEPUTY GRAND SUPREME RULER
R.Wy.Bro. Cdr C. J. Aspinell, *RD, JP*

GRAND CHANCELLOR
R.Wy.Bro. N. A. B. Grout

PROVINCIAL AND DISTRICT GRAND SUPREME RULERS

R.Wy.Bro. R. C. W. Batchelor..... Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Hampshire & IOW
R.Wy.Bro. I. R. Sullivan..... Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Dorset & Wiltshire
R.Wy.Bro. H. S. Markham..... Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Beds., Cambs., & Herts.
R.Wy.Bro. D. C. Staniforth..... Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for West Yorkshire
R.Wy.Bro. R. J. Simpson..... Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for North Scotland
R.Wy.Bro. B. Wegerhoff..... Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Oxon, Berks. & Bucks.
R.Wy.Bro. D. K. Bartlett..... Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for West Wales
R.Wy.Bro. I. C. G. Foster..... District Grand Supreme Ruler for Southern Caribbean
R.Wy.Bro. D. G. Wheeler..... Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Gloucestershire & Herefordshire
R.Wy.Bro. P. C. Ellenor..... Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for North & East Yorkshire
R.Wy.Bro. J. Whitfield..... Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Devonshire

R.Wy.Bro. C. A. Givvons Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for East Lancashire
R.Wy.Bro. M. B. Le Conte Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Channel Islands
R.Wy.Bro. W. A. Stringer Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Cheshire & North Wales
R.Wy.Bro. J. A. N. Frost Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Somerset
R.Wy.Bro. C. M. Sturt Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for London & Middlesex
R.Wy.Bro. W. G. McColl Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Suffolk
R.Wy.Bro. A. D. Jones Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for South Wales and Monmouthshire
R.Wy.Bro. D. A. Freshwater Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Warwickshire
R.Wy.Bro. S. R. Offord Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Norfolk
R.Wy.Bro. J. D. Watts Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for The North-East
R.Wy.Bro. M. W. Greene Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for East Scotland
R.Wy.Bro. J. C. Bicknell Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for West Lancashire
R.Wy.Bro. P. F. Fell Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Essex
R.Wy.Bro. R. C. Vaughan Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Worcestershire
R.Wy.Bro. Dr S. J. Dunn Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Kent
R.Wy.Bro. A. C. Rusby Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Sussex
R.Wy.Bro. I. T. D. Smith Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Surrey
R.Wy.Bro. R. S. Ellis Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for East Midlands
R.Wy.Bro. I. P. Bennett Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Staffordshire & Shropshire
R.Wy.Bro. T. Conroy Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Cornwall

GRAND INSPECTOR

V.Wy.Bro. A. Paiva Grand Inspector for Portugal

PAST PROVINCIAL GRAND SUPREME RULERS

R.Wy.Bro. S. G. Carley, P.Prov.G.S.R. (West Yorkshire)
R.Wy.Bro. M. F. Barnes, P.Prov.G.S.R. (Surrey)
R.Wy.Bro. J. S. Stevens, P.Prov.G.S.R. (Staffordshire & Shropshire)
R.Wy.Bro. I. P. Duff, P.Prov.G.S.R. (East Scotland)
R.Wy.Bro. R. Mussell, P.Prov.G.S.R. (Gloucestershire & Herefordshire)
R.Wy.Bro. G. H. Fenwick, P.Prov.G.S.R. (North & East Yorkshire)
R.Wy.Bro. P. J. Wise, P.Prov.G.S.R. (Kent)
R.Wy.Bro. G. Hutchinson, P.Prov.G.S.R. (West Yorkshire)
R.Wy.Bro. R. Habbitts, P.Prov.G.S.R. (Norfolk)
R.Wy.Bro. M. J. J. Singleton, P.Prov.G.S.R. (Essex)
R.Wy.Bro. M. A. J. Barnard, P.Prov.G.S.R. (Cornwall)
R.Wy.Bro. Drs A. J. van der Burgh, P.Prov.G.S.R. (Sussex)
R.Wy.Bro. K. C. Johnson, P.Prov.G.S.R. (Kent)

GRAND OFFICERS OF THE YEAR

R.Wy.Bro. M. B. Squires Grand Counsellor
R.Wy.Bro. P. R. Crudge Grand Guide
V.Wy.Bro. Rabbi Z. L. Solomons Grand Chaplain
R.Wy.Bro. Cdr C. J. Aspinell, *RD, JP*, P.Dep.G.S.R. . President of the Executive Committee
R.Wy.Bro. R. A. H. Morrow, P.G.G Grand Treasurer
V.Wy.Bro. J. C. Whitaker, *JP, DL* Grand Registrar
R.Wy.Bro. D. M. Heath, P.G.G Grand Recorder
V.Wy.Bro. H. S. Sagoo Grand Director of Ceremonies
V.Wy.Bro. J. K. Starley Deputy Grand Chaplain
V.Wy.Bro. C. R. Manuel Deputy Grand Registrar
V.Wy.Bro. J. J. Stevenson Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies
V.Wy.Bro. M. A. Thompson-O'Connor Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies
V.Wy.Bro. R. F. Knight Grand Visitor
V.Wy.Bro. D. A. Hatfield Grand Visitor
V.Wy.Bro. W. D. Lloyd Grand Visitor

Wy.Bro. A. R. Armbrister	Assistant Grand Registrar
Wy.Bro. D. Mersh	Assistant Grand Recorder
Wy.Bro. Lt Col. M. C. A. Caseman-Jones, <i>TD</i>	Assistant Grand Recorder
Wy.Bro. J. F. E. Davies	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
Wy.Bro. P. S. Howard	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
Wy.Bro. P. A. Joynson	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
Wy.Bro. C. D. Crombie	Grand Sword Bearer
Wy.Bro. M. I. J. Currans	Deputy Grand Sword Bearer
Wy.Bro. L. A. Darby	Grand Standard Bearer
Wy.Bro. C. C. Summers	Grand Bow Bearer
Wy.Bro. A. T. Morris, P.G.Swd.B.	Grand Organist
Wy.Bro. L. G. Clement, P.G.St.B.	Deputy Grand Organist
Wy.Bro. M. D. Symes	Grand Guarder
Wy.Bro. J. D. Allen	Grand Steward
Wy.Bro. A. Cook	Grand Steward
Wy.Bro. I. Dixon	Grand Steward
Wy.Bro. N. K. Dunlop	Grand Steward
Wy.Bro. O. T. Hall	Grand Steward
Wy.Bro. R. L. Williams	Grand Steward
Wy.Bro. P. Busby	Grand Sentinel

PAST GRAND COUNSELLORS

R.Wy.Bro. Lt Col. J. C. Chambers
R.Wy.Bro. I. M. Campbell
R.Wy.Bro. P. A. Norman
R.Wy.Bro. S. C. L. Middleton
R.Wy.Bro. F. C. Spencer

PAST GRAND GUIDES

R.Wy.Bro. B. A. Calcutt
R.Wy.Bro. S. Jackson
R.Wy.Bro. M. A. Jacques
R.Wy.Bro. D. H. Liddington
R.Wy.Bro. C. M. L. Davies
R.Wy.Bro. P. W. Tarrant
R.Wy.Bro. J. P. Wallis
R.Wy.Bro. G. R. Horstman
R.Wy.Bro. B. G. Hurst
R.Wy.Bro. G. B. Mitchell
R.Wy.Bro. S. Rhodes
R.Wy.Bro. T. M. Sharpe

OVERSEAS BRETHREN OF OUR OWN CONSTITUTION

SOUTH AFRICA NORTHERN

Wy.Bro. W. Krause
Wy.Bro. L. Onsiong
Wy.Bro. K. Ridley

SOUTHERN CARIBBEAN

V.Wy.Bro. A. H. Daniels, P.G.V.
Wy.Bro. J. Lewis, P.G.Swd.B.
Wy.Bro. E. E. Dixon, P.G.St.B.
Wy.Bro. P. F. Suffren
Bro. K. St A. Farmer
Bro. K. P. Hinds

INSPECTORATE OF PORTUGAL

Wy.Bro. J. F. F. Da Costa Henriques, Insp.Rec.

Wy.Bro. M. M. Da Costa

Wy.Bro. A. M. D. S. Marques

Bro. J. L. Rebelo Afonso

Bro. F. N. F. Pinto Coimbra Pereira

Damon and Phintias Conclave No. 627 (Unattached – Greece)

V.Wy.Bro. A. Spyropoulos

Bro. I. Benetatos

BRETHREN FROM GRAND CONCLAVES OVERSEAS

GRAND CONCLAVE OF FRANCE

R.Wy.Bro. C. B. M. Barthet, G.S.R.

R.Wy.Bro. A. C. P. Herreng

GRAND CONCLAVE OF SOUTH EAST ASIA

R.Wy.Bro. R. J. Saunders, P.Dep.G.S.R., O.S.S.M.M.

Wy.Bro. V. G. Lim

HEADS OF ORDERS

M.Wy.Bro. P. R. Clement, *OStJ*, P.G.S.R.

R.Wy.Bro. K. J. Jones, P.G.Coun.

R.Wy.Bro. I. S. Currans, G.Chan.

R.Wy.Bro. C. G. Maiden, P.G.Coun.

Grand Master – K.T.

Grand Master – R.S.M.

Grand Summus – Scarlet Cord

Grand High Priest – K.T.P.

There were also present a large number of Past Grand Officers, Supreme Rulers, Past Supreme Rulers and Princes of the Order.

The members of the Arch of Steel formed a Guard of Honour under the direction of the Commander, Wy.Bro. S. Higson, with Wy.Bros David Ursell, Dep.Cdr., P. F. Ambrody, D. J. Forward, M. G. Murray, J. D. Poulton, S. Sampson, R. G. Short; and Bros J. P. Castle, P. O. Guy-Fisher, M. L. Preece, *TD*, *AE*, and W. McPheat.

Report of Proceedings

1. OPENING

Grand Conclave was opened in Ample Form by the Most Worthy Grand Supreme Ruler.

2. IN MEMORIAM

The Most Worthy Grand Supreme Ruler referred with great regret to the death of a number of Brethren, including 121 Grand Officers, which had occurred since the previous annual meeting of Grand Conclave. He mentioned in particular the loss of: M.Wy.Bro. Michael William Guest, Grand Supreme Ruler (2009–2014), formerly Dep.G.S.R. (2001–2005), and also Primus Grand Summus for the Order of the Scarlet Cord (2010–2012); R.Wy.Bro. Morgan McDonald, P.Prov.G.S.R. (East Scotland); R.Wy.Bro. Gerald Charles Colwell, P.G.G.; R.Wy.Bro. Raymond Rooke, P.G.G.; R.Wy. Bro. Walter John Yule, P.G.G.; R.Wy.Bro. Trevor John Harrison, JP, P.G.G.; R.Wy.Bro. Allan James Laidlaw, P.G.G.; R.Wy.Bro. David Hendry Allan Milne-Leith, P.G.G.; and only yesterday, R.Wy.Bro. Terence Albert Dennis Bowler, P.G.G., and holder of a 50 year certificate of membership of the Order.

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

3. CALLING OF THE ROLL OF ACTIVE GRAND OFFICERS

The Grand Recorder called the roll of the Active Officers with all being present except those who had sent apologies.

4. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 14 November 2024, having been circulated with the Summons, were taken as read, approved and adopted.

5. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

On the proposition of the President of the Executive Committee, seconded by the Grand Recorder, the Report of the Executive Committee for the twelve months ended 31 August 2025, having been printed as **Appendix A** of the Summons for this meeting, was taken as read, approved and adopted.

6. REPORT OF THE GRAND GUIDE

The Grand Guide presented his report for the twelve months ended 31 August 2025. It was seconded by the President of the Executive Committee, and the report, having been printed as **Appendix B** of the Summons, was taken as read and confirmed.

7. AUDITED STATEMENTS OF ACCOUNTS 2023/2024

On the proposition of the Grand Treasurer, seconded by the President of the Executive Committee, the Audited Statement of Accounts of the Order for the financial year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024, having been printed in **Appendix C** of the Summons, were formally approved and adopted.

8. REPORT OF THE GRAND TREASURER

The Grand Treasurer presented the Report of the Statement of Accounts of the Order for the financial year 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025, and advised that both the General Fund and the Benevolent Fund were in good order.

9. GRANTS AWARDED BY THE OSM FUND OF BENEVOLENCE

The Most Worthy Grand Supreme Ruler called upon the President of the Executive Committee who advised that the following match-funding grants had been awarded during the year ending 31 August 2025:

Beds, Cambs & Herts – Stevenage and North Herts Talking News	£200
Beds, Cambs & Herts – MAGPAS Air Ambulance Charity	£200
Cheshire & North Wales –Save the Family Ltd	£1,000
Cornwall – Kids in Action	£200
Essex – Little Havens	£500

Essex – Southend Hospital Charitable Foundation	£500
Gloucestershire & Herefordshire – The Little Princess Trust.....	£700
Gloucestershire & Herefordshire – Friends of Alderman Knight School.....	£300
Kent – Ellenor	£1,000
Kent – Mary's Child.....	£500
Kent – Demelza Hospice Care.....	£500
North & East Yorkshire – Macmillan Cancer	£500
Surrey – Dylan Strong Foundation.....	£500
Surrey – Headway Surrey Head Injuries Association Ltd	£500
Surrey – Children's Trust	£500
Sussex (Earl of Courtown Conclave No. 150) – Knight Support	£350
Dementia Jersey.....	£500
The Channel Islands (Le Marchant Conclave No. 421) Methodist Homes for the Aged (Guernsey).....	£500
The North-East – Red Sky Foundation	£1,000
Warwickshire (Godiva Conclave No. 485) – Zoe's Place Trust	£450
West Lancashire – Preston & Chorley TLC	£250
West Lancashire (Castlerigg No. 363) – North West Ambulance Service.....	£500
West Scotland – Clyde Coast MS Therapy Centre.....	£700
West Yorkshire – Leeds Jewish Welfare Board (LJWB).....	£500
West Yorkshire – Doncaster Deaf Trust	£500
Worcestershire – Acorns Children's Hospice Trust.....	£1,000
TOTAL	£13,850

10. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTIONS AND REGULATIONS

On the proposition of President of the Executive Committee, seconded by the Grand Recorder, the amendments to the Constitutions and Regulations, having been printed as **Appendix D** of the Summons, were formally approved and adopted.

11. ELECTION AND PROCLAMATION OF THE GRAND SUPREME RULER

The Deputy Grand Supreme Ruler proposed that M.Wy.Bro. Andrew Christopher Sweeney be re-elected Grand Supreme Ruler. The President of the Executive Committee seconded the proposition and M.Wy.Bro. Sweeney was elected with acclamation as Grand Supreme Ruler for the ensuing year.

The Grand Director of Ceremonies proclaimed as follows:

Be it known that ANDREW CHRISTOPHER SWEENEY, Bachelor of Commerce with Honours of the University of Liverpool; Master in Business Administration of the University of Aston; Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales; Past Grand Sword Bearer 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 of 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 in the Ancient and Accepted Rite under the Supreme Council 33rd Degree for England and Wales and its Districts and Chapters Overseas; Past Grand Senior General 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 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 Senior Warden in the Grand Council of the Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees of England and Wales and Districts and Councils Overseas; Past Grand Summus in the Grand Senatus of the Ancient and Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord in the British Isles and its Districts and Consistories Overseas; Member of the Seventh Degree (Honoris Causa) in the Worshipful Society of Freemasons, Rough Masons, Wallers, Slaters, Paviers, Plaisterers and Bricklayers; Knight Commander of the Priestly Orders of the Grand College of Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests and Order of Holy Wisdom; Past Grand Almoner in the Grand Priory of the Knights Beneficent of the Holy City of the Rectified Scottish Rite of England and Wales; Past Provincial Grand Master in the Provincial Grand Lodge of Staffordshire and Shropshire in the Royal Order of Scotland; Adept of Christian Rosenkreutz, Magus Honoris Causa, Ninth Grade in the Societas Rosicruciana in Anglia; Grand Supreme Ruler, etc., etc., etc., has this day been elected and proclaimed Most Worthy Grand Supreme Ruler of the Order of the Secret Monitor, or Brotherhood of David and Jonathan, in the British Isles and its Districts and Conclaves Overseas; whom may the Almighty Friend of All Friends long preserve.

The Most Worthy Grand Supreme Ruler was saluted under the direction of the Grand Director of Ceremonies and returned thanks.

12. APPOINTMENT AND PROCLAMATION OF THE DEPUTY GRAND SUPREME RULER

The Most Worthy Grand Supreme Ruler announced the reappointment of R.Wy.Bro. Keith Berwick Ferguson as Deputy Grand Supreme Ruler for the ensuing year.

The Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies proclaimed as follows:

Be it known that KEITH BERWICK FERGUSON, Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales; Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies 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 Grand Junior Overseer in the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and its Districts and Lodges Overseas and Holder of Grand Rank in the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariner; 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 Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies in the Grand Council of the Order of Royal and Select Masters of England and Wales and its Districts and Councils Overseas; Past Grand Junior Deacon in the Grand Council of the Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees of England and Wales and Districts and Councils Overseas; Past Provincial Grand Summus in the Province of South Wales and Monmouthshire in the Grand Senatus of the Ancient and Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord in the British Isles and its Districts and Consistories Overseas; Deputy Grand Supreme Ruler, etc., etc., etc., has this day been appointed and proclaimed Right Worthy Deputy Grand Supreme Ruler of the Order of the Secret Monitor, or Brotherhood of David and Jonathan, in the British Isles and its Districts and Conclaves Overseas; whom may the Almighty Friend of All Friends long preserve.

The Deputy Grand Supreme Ruler was saluted under the direction of the Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies and returned returned thanks.

13. APPOINTMENT AND PROCLAMATION OF THE ASSISTANT GRAND SUPREME RULER

The Most Worthy Grand Supreme Ruler announced the re-appointment of R.Wy.Bro. Gasper Llewellyn Gill, *SLMM*, as Assistant Grand Supreme Ruler.

The Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies proclaimed as follows:

Be it known that GASPER LLEWELLYN GILL, Recipient of the St Lucia Medal of Merit (Gold); Past District Senior Grand Warden in the District Grand Lodge of Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean in the United Fraternity of Antient, Free and Accepted Masons of England; Past District Grand Scribe Nehemiah in the District Grand Chapter of Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean in the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England; Past Grand Junior Overseer in the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and its Districts and Lodges Overseas and Holder of Grand Rank in the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariner; Second Great Constable 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; Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33rd Degree, and Inspector General for the District of South Eastern Caribbean of the Ancient and Accepted Rite 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; District Grand Master for the District of South and East Caribbean of the Grand Council of the Order of Royal and Select Masters of England and Wales and its Districts and Councils Overseas; Past Grand Senior Deacon in the Grand Council of the Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees of England and Wales and Districts and Councils Overseas; District Grand Summus for the District of Southern Caribbean of the Grand Senatus of the Ancient and Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord in the British Isles and its Districts and Consistories Overseas; Grand Superintendent for the District of Southern Caribbean of the Grand College of Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests and Order of Holy Wisdom; A member of the Seventh Degree, Honoris Causa, in the Worshipful Society of Freemasons, Rough Masons, Wallers, Slaters, Paviers, Plaisterers and Bricklayers; Assistant Grand Supreme Ruler; etc., etc., etc., has this day been appointed and proclaimed Right Worthy Assistant Grand Supreme Ruler of the Order of the Secret Monitor, or Brotherhood of David and Jonathan, in the British Isles and its Districts and Conclaves Overseas; whom may the Almighty Friend of All Friends long preserve.

The Assistant Grand Supreme Ruler was saluted under the direction of the Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies and returned thanks.

14. ELECTION OF THE GRAND TREASURER

The President of the Executive Committee proposed that R.Wy.Bro. Robert Anthony Henry Morrow, P.G.G., be elected Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year. The proposition was seconded by the Grand Recorder and carried by the Brethren.

15. APPOINTMENT OF GRAND OFFICERS

The Grand Recorder read the names of the Brethren whom the Most Worthy Grand Supreme Ruler had appointed to Grand Rank. The Most Worthy Grand Supreme Ruler invested those present:

GRAND OFFICERS 2025/2026

Grand Counsellor.....	Paul William Tarrant
Grand Guide	Robin Francis Knight
Grand Chaplain.....	Rabbi Zvi Lewin Solomons
President Executive Committee.....	Stewart Glasgow Carley
Grand Treasurer	Robert Anthony Henry Morrow, P.G.G.
Grand Registrar	Jonathan Charles Whitaker, <i>JP, DL</i>
Grand Recorder	Daniel Mark Heath, P.G.G.
Grand Director of Ceremonies	Harjinder Singh Sagoo

Deputy Grand Chaplain	John Keith Starley
Deputy Grand Registrar	Clive Robert Manuel
Deputy Grand Recorder	Alan Robert Brumwell, <i>JP</i>
Deputy Grand Directors of Ceremonies	John Johnston Stevenson
	Mark Anthony Thompson-O'Connor
Grand Visitors	Andrew James Bibby
	Stephen Richard Nigel Fenton
	Dr Silverio Leonard Ostrowski
	Peter John Tuck
Assistant Grand Chaplain	Revd Howard Thomas Pashley
Assistant Grand Registrar	Allan Ramsay Armbrister
Assistant Grand Recorder	Derek Mersh
Assistant Grand Recorder	Lt Col. Michael Charles Alexander Caseman-Jones, <i>TD</i>
Assistant Grand Directors of Ceremonies	Leslie Charles Dance
	Simon David Evans
	Paul William Hutchinson
	James Frazer Orlopp
Grand Sword Bearer	Lt Col. John William Henry
Deputy Grand Sword Bearer	Colin Cantrell
Grand Standard Bearer	Trevor Charles John Simcock
Deputy Grand Standard Bearer	John Peter Richardson
Grand Bow Bearer	Paul Damian Swarbrick
Grand Organist	Andrew Timothy Morris, <i>JP</i> , P.G.Swd.B.
Deputy Grand Organist	Lewis George Clement, P.G.St.B.
Grand Guarder	Andrew Sinclair
Assistant Grand Guarder	Paul Jones
Grand Stewards	Roger Anthony Baker
	Martin Alan Culverhouse
	Patrick Allen Elwick
	Matthew Ian Knight
	Colin Everett Lewis
	Lorenzo Maraspin
	Sidney George Philpin
	Peter John Sacre
	Colin Whittaker
Grand Sentinel	Paul Busby

PROMOTIONS

Past Grand Guide

John Alan Beardmore	David Anderson Christie Niven, <i>CStJ</i>
Trevor Charles Burton	Eric Trodd, <i>KLJ</i>
Raymond Charles Clarke	Jonathan Charles Whitaker, <i>JP</i> , <i>DL</i>
Peter William Gilkes	Stephen Nigel White
Pringle Johnstone	John Harlow Wickes
John Marrison	

Past Grand Visitor

Richard Charles Callaby	Kenneth Laidlaw
<u>William Chrystal</u>	Stuart John Lines
Philip Charles Clare	Malcolm Charles MacRae
Mark Samuel Livermore Corcoran	Kenneth Ian Walchester
Neil Davies	Neil Edwin Austin Watkin
David Pickford Joyce	David John William Willcock

Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies

Edward Thomas Allcock	Paul Weldon Johnston
Kevin Charles Bampton	Peter Charles Langton
Roger Peter Bayes	John Lewis
Bernard Eric Bullock	Michael John Lewis
Alan Andrew Buntain	Brian Robert Lowe
Charles Nicholas Burn	Bruce Edwin Lowis
Gareth Edward Callan	Gavin McLean McNab
Michael Chambers	Alan Mossop
Antony Kenneth Clayton	Wing Hong Ng
Albert Leonard John Comber	Thomas Ewan Notman, <i>OStJ</i>
Robert David Garry Cook	Gregory Pinnington
Gavin John Cumberland	Tobias Alexander Reece
Vincent Fattorusso	Sean Christopher Rees
Paul Robert Gawler	Roger Beresford Smith
Ian Thomas Charles Glister	Graham Leonard Spence
Derrick Nigel Griffin	William Michael Thorburn Steen
David John Hampton	Richard William Vipond
Ivor Roland Hawkins	Michael Waller
Dr John Walter Hawkins	Martin Andrew Watt
Peter Edward Hill	Patrick Colin Watters, <i>JP</i>
Leonard Harry Hillier	John Christopher Welton

Past Grand Sword Bearer

John Smith Barbour	Charles Baird Kelman
Kevin John Barrett	Brian Godfrey Scott
Jeffrey Lionel Conway	Mark Anthony Woolcott

PAST RANKS (FIRST APPOINTMENTS)

Past Grand Sword Bearer

Robert Michael Anderson	Simon Murray
James Alexander Brown	Robert Kenneth Norris
Paul Edwin Cowley	Reynato D. Jr. Puno
Ralph Maxwell Craig, <i>JP</i>	Leslie Smith
Juanito G. Espino, <i>Jr</i>	Ian Stuart Warner
Robert John McHardy	Peter David Warner
Ruben Dario McSween	

Past Deputy Grand Sword Bearer

Michael Andrew Usher	Sir Paul Michael Williams, <i>OBE, KStJ, DL</i>
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Past Grand Standard Bearer

Anthony Abraham	Garry Milnes
David Joseph Broome	Alastair Richardson
Scott Andrew James Cargill	Keith John Ridley
Manuel Martins Da Costa	Mark William Grieves Smith
Christopher Wenham Eley	Nigel Raymond Stephens
Peter John Graham	Primus Felicien Suffren
Melvin John Harmer	George Frederick Summers
Michael John Lake	Neil David Temple
Wesley Norman Lay	Samuel Lee Turtington
Chi Ching Frederick Leung	Charles Martin Wilson
Merlyn Lloyd	

Past Deputy Grand Standard Bearer

Gareth Wynne Davies
Geoffrey Malcolm Lates
Dr Antonio Manuel Da Silva Marques

John Patrick Murphy
Stephen Charles Thomson

Past Grand Bow Bearer

Michael Edwin George Glennie
Johannes Willem Hattingh
Peter David Kent
Gordon Robert William MacLean
Paul Laurence Merryfellow

Lee Meng How Onsiong
Alastair William John Page
Geoffrey Wilson Reeves
Barry Stewart Toombs
George Walker

Past Grand Guarder

John Figge

Gary Oates

Past Assistant Grand Guarder

Wayne Benjamin Krause

16. ARCH OF STEEL

The Most Worthy Grand Supreme Ruler received the Commander, Wy.Bro. S. Higson, and the Deputy Commander, Wy.Bro. D. Ursell. The Most Worthy Grand Supreme Ruler then proceeded to inspect the Arch of Steel.

17. APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES OF THE OSM FUND OF BENEVOLENCE

On the proposition of the President of the Executive Committee, seconded by the Grand Recorder and carried by the Brethren present, the following Brethren were appointed as trustees of the OSM Fund of Benevolence, in accordance with Regulation 33 of the Constitutions and Regulations:

R.Wy.Bro. M. F. Barnes, P.Prov.G.S.R. (Surrey)
R.Wy.Bro. S. G. Carley, P.Prov.G.S.R. (West Yorkshire)
R.Wy.Bro. M. J. J. Singleton, P.Prov.G.S.R. (Essex)
R.Wy.Bro. G. L. Flight, P.G.Coun.

18. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS TO GRAND CONCLAVE

In accordance with the requirements of Regulation 13 of the Constitutions & Regulations, the President of the Executive Committee proposed that Messrs Crowe U.K. LLP, Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors, be re-appointed as auditors to Grand Conclave. This was seconded by the Grand Recorder and the proposition was carried.

19. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Grand Recorder reported that in accordance with Regulation 20 of the Constitutions and Regulations, nominations for election to the Executive Committee had been received in respect of:

R.Wy.Bro. I. R. Sullivan, Prov.G.S.R. for Dorset and Wiltshire
R.Wy.Bro. H. S. Markham, Prov.G.S.R. for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire & Hertfordshire
R.Wy.Bro. B. Wegerhoff, Prov.G.S.R. for Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Buckinghamshire
R.Wy.Bro. P. C. Ellenor, Prov.G.S.R. for North & East Yorkshire
R.Wy.Bro. J. S. Stevens, P.Prov.G.S.R. (Staffordshire and Shropshire)
R.Wy.Bro. Drs A. J. Van der Burgh, P.Prov.G.S.R. (Sussex)

The Most Worthy Grand Supreme Ruler announced that there being only six nominations for six places on the Executive Committee, he declared these six Brethren duly elected.

20. ADDRESS BY THE MOST WORTHY GRAND SUPREME RULER

The Most Worthy Grand Supreme Ruler addressed Grand Conclave as follows:

'Very Dear Brethren, I formally welcome you to the Grand Conclave investiture meeting and thank you all for making the journey to be here today to share, with the recipients of

Grand Rank, the unique friendship for this beautiful Order. To those who have attended before I hope you have enjoyed meeting up with many old friends as well as making new ones. To those who are attending for the first time, I hope you have also made new friends and taken the opportunity to look round and admire this wonderful building.

'Brethren, shortly after the last Grand Conclave meeting, I was pleased to visit Liverpool Conclave No. 67 which combined their day with meetings of the Allied Masonic Degrees and Royal Ark Mariner at Garston. This was followed, in early January, by a surprise visit to Malta Conclave No. 30 in Valetta to support the induction of the Grand Master for Malta into our Order.

'In August, I visited Wudcestre Conclave No. 390 in Ashington for the Installation of Wy.Bro. Andrew Jennings as Supreme Ruler. I also went to Halifax, Canada, for the installation of the Grand Supreme Ruler in support of the retiring Grand Supreme Ruler, M.Wy.Bro. Prince Selvaraj, who has been a keen supporter of the OSM and Scarlet Cord in this country and around the world. My last visit to a Conclave was two weeks ago when I visited Ted Meredith Conclave No. 427 in Worcestershire to see R.Wy.Bro. Dennis Freshwater expertly install R.Wy.Bro. Bob Vaughan as Supreme Ruler.

'Since our last meeting, I have been pleased to appoint and invest four Provincial Grand Supreme Rulers and my Deputy has appointed and invested one:

In April, I had the pleasure of installing R.Wy.Bro. Tan Rusby, as Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Sussex, in succession to R.Wy.Bro. Dries Van der Burgh;

In May, R.Wy.Bro. Ian Smith, as Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Surrey, in succession to R.Wy.Bro. Colin Beering;

In August, I appointed Bob Sagoo as Grand Director of Ceremonies, and then installed R.Wy.Bro. Ray Ellis as Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for the East Midlands, in succession to R.Wy.Bro. Uri Patel. I extend my grateful thanks to Ray for the expert, loyal and enjoyable way in which he supported the Order, and me, during his tenure as Grand Director of Ceremonies;

In September, R.Wy.Bro. Ian Bennett, as Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler, in succession to R.Wy.Bro. John Stevens, who has retired after 15 years of loyal service to the Province of Staffordshire and Shropshire;

In October, R.Wy.Bro. Keith Ferguson, Dep.G.S.R., on my behalf, installed R.Wy. Bro. Trevor Conroy as Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler for Cornwall in succession to R.Wy.Bro. Michael Barnard, *MBE*.

'To the retiring Provincial Grand Supreme Rulers, I record my thanks and the thanks of Grand Conclave for all the hard work they have done in ruling their Provinces for many years. I extend my best wishes to the new Provincial Grand Supreme Rulers for all the work they will undertake in their new roles. I also thank and make special reference to the collective support of all the Provincial Grand Supreme Rulers, the Deputy and Assistant Provincial Grand Supreme Rulers and the Provincial Grand Recorders who make invaluable contributions to the Order in their respective Provinces, Districts and Conclaves, again over many years.

'Indeed, the main reason we are here today is to recognise and reward the hard work and dedication of a great many Secret Monitors, by investing them, in the presence of their friends and colleagues, with the Grand Ranks they have richly deserved. This Order is a special Order in terms of friendliness and caring, and I enjoin all those Grand Officers whom I have appointed to encourage the Visiting Deacons in their Conclaves to perform their duties as they should.

'In particular, I wish to extend my thanks to R.Wy.Bro. Paul Crudge who has, with great dedication, conscientiously served the Order as Grand Guide for the last eight years and has retired today. I also thank R.Wy.Bro. Cdr Charles Aspinell who served as Deputy Grand Supreme Ruler for both Paul Clement and myself from 2015 to 2018, and then

became President of the Executive Committee until today. I'm sure you will join with me in wishing him every success in his new role as Grand Master of the Order of Athelstan. I am most grateful to the active officers of the past year for their support and assistance at the installations and other events, and also to the Arch of Steel who have given tremendous support on many occasions during the year.

'It is now my pleasure to introduce to you the Heads of our Companion Orders, all of whom extend great support to the Order:

I was to welcome R.Wy.Bro. John Prizeman, P.G.Coun., Pro Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons and the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariner, but he is unfortunately not here today. He is ill and I am sure you will all join with me in wishing him well. He is represented today by the Deputy Grand Master, V.W.Bro. Prof. Denovan Wilson;

R.Wy.Bro. Paul Clement, *OSTJ*, P.G.S.R. – Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master of the Knights Templar, and our Immediate Past Grand Supreme Ruler;

R.W.Bro. Kessick Jones, P.G.Coun. – Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Order of the Royal and Select Masters;

R.Wy.Bro. Ian Currans, G.Chan. – Most Distinguished Grand Summus of the Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord;

and R.Wy.Bro. Christopher Maiden, P.G.Coun. – Most Illustrious Grand High Priest of the Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests and Order of Holy Wisdom.

'May I now continue by formally welcoming our distinguished brethren and guests from overseas, starting with our own Constitution:

From South Africa, Wy.Bro. Keith Ridley, P.G.St.B., Wy.Bro. Lee Onsiong, P.G.B.B., and Wy.Bro. Wayne Krause, P.A.G.Gdr. – all recipients today;

From Southern Caribbean, R.Wy.Bro. Gasper Gill, *SLMM*, A.G.S.R.; R.Wy.Bro. Ian Foster, Dist.G.S.R.; V.Wy.Bro. Albert Daniels, P.G.V.; Wy.Bro. John Lewis, P.A.G.D.C. – a recipient today; Wy.Bro. Eldridge Dixon, *JP*, P.G.St.B.; Wy.Bro. Primus Suffren, P.G.St.B. – a recipient today; Bro. Kofi Hinds, and Bro. Kevin Farmer;

From the Inspectorate of Portugal, V.Wy.Bro. Amadeu Piava, G.Insp.; Wy.Bro. Manuel Da Costa, P.G.St.B. – a recipient today; Wy.Bro. Antonio Marques, P.Dep.G.St.B. – a recipient today; Wy.Bro. Jorge Da Costa Henriques, Insp.Rec.; Bro. F. Nelson Pinto Coimbra Periera; and Bro. José Rebelo Afonso;

From Damon and Phintias Conclave No. 627 in Greece, V.Wy.Bro. Andreas Spyropoulos, P.G.V., and Bro. Ioannis Benetatos.

'We are also honoured with the presence of Brethren from Grand Conclaves Overseas:

From the Grand Conclave of France – R.Wy.Bro. Claude Barthet, Grand Supreme Ruler – may I say what a pleasure it was to see you installed on 1 March this year – and R.Wy. Bro. Alain Herreng;

From South East Asia, our great friend M.Wy.Bro. Ray Saunders, P.Dep.G.S.R. and holder of O.S.S.M.M., and Wy.Bro. Victor Gerard Lim.

'Many of you will know that the Pro Grand Master, M.W.Bro. John Prizeman, has been striving to bring the M.M.H. Orders more closely aligned with the Craft and Royal Arch. I am happy to say that this is proving successful, with the Heads of the Companion Orders being recognised at Quarterly Communications of Grand Lodge, and a more general acceptance by the Craft that we in these companion orders dynamically and strongly support the whole Masonic structure. I therefore thank the Pro Grand Master for his endeavours on our behalf.

'The Premier Conclave of Improvement, which has been in existence for over eighty years, has continued to provide valuable support and assistance for Brethren across the

country by a mix of in-person and online meetings where the ceremonies are rehearsed, discussed and explained. To build on this success, the committee has suggested that we extend the program of work by inviting provinces to host one of the ten online meetings and provide provincial officers to deliver a short lecture on some aspect of the ritual; secondly, to create a network of local preceptors by holding biannual meetings to enable eligibility for the office of Preceptor. I think this is a commendable idea and look forward to it being communicated to, and supported by, the Provinces. I will, of course be happy to attend the first occasion thereof.

'I wish to thank again, the former Grand Director of Ceremonies and the new Grand Director of Ceremonies for their support and the excellent way they have conducted the ceremonies, along with their team of Deputies, particularly the working of today's Grand Conclave. I also express my thanks to the Grand Recorder and the whole support team which enables the efficient administration of all Orders from M.M.H.

'Last year, in my address, I mentioned that we were introducing Grand Patron Collarettes for both Conclaves and Provinces on achievement of various levels of donations to the O.S.M. Benevolent Fund. In order for the Province to attain each status, all Conclaves in the Province need to have achieved that same status. I am pleased therefore to announce that the first Province to achieve the level of Grand Patron Gold is Kent, and so, Grand Director of Ceremonies, if you would present R.Wy.Bro. Scott Dunn, Prov.G.S.R., to me I will be pleased to invest him with the Provincial collarette.

'Brethren I am sure we can all look forward to the next year as being as happy and enjoyable as I believe this last year has been for the Brotherhood of David and Jonathan. I wish you, your families and all Secret Monitors, good health, happiness and success in the year to come.'

21. PRESENTATION OF A FIFTY YEAR CERTIFICATE AND JEWEL

The Most Worthy Grand Supreme Ruler stated that one of his favourite duties was the presentation of fifty-year service awards. He then called upon the Grand Director of Ceremonies to escort V.Wy.Bro. Howard Francis Doe, P.G.Reg., to him so that he could congratulate him in Grand Conclave on his outstanding commitment to the Order, having been inducted into Invicta Pride of Kent Conclave No. 188 on 6 September 1975. The Grand Recorder read the certificate, then the Most Worthy Grand Supreme Ruler presented the certificate and 50 year jewel to V.W.Bro. Doe, and proceeded to promote him to Past Grand Guide.

22. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Grand Recorder expressed his thanks to the Provincial and District Grand Supreme Rulers, and their Recorders and Executives, for their work on behalf of Grand Conclave, keeping the Order strong in the regions for which they oversee. He also thanked the Provincial Grand Guides for ensuring that the main tenets of the Order are met and advised that their efforts were greatly appreciated by all at Grand Conclave. He added his thanks to the staff at Mark Masons' Hall for their support for him, and for the Rulers of this Order and the other Rulers, ensuring that they are able to carry out their duties quickly and efficiently.

The Grand Recorder then announced that the Grand Sentinel, Paul Busby, had reached a milestone birthday this year and had asked that he might retire at the end of December. With regret, his request had been acceded to and the Grand Recorder placed on record his thanks, the thanks of this Grand Conclave and of the other Orders administered from M.M.H., to Paul for his efforts, stating that he has made a great impact and certainly left his mark on the office of Grand Sentinel and Grand Tyler, and wished him well in his future endeavours.

23. CLOSING

Grand Conclave was closed in Due Form.

