

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 June 2023**

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

PRESENT

M.W.Bro. HRH PRINCE MICHAEL OF KENT, GCVO
Grand Master

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. R. J. Smith

Past Deputy Grand Master

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. J. Steggles 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. D. R. Clancey Provincial Grand Master for North and 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, <i>JP</i>	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. E. A. Marcer,	District Grand Master for River Plate
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. R. Poole	District Grand Master for South Africa (Eastern)
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. 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. B. P. Gargett	Provincial Grand Master for Gloucestershire and 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
R.W.Bro. B. Kirkbride	Provincial Grand Master for Cumberland and Westmorland
R.W.Bro. D. C. Purdie	Provincial Grand Master for Devonshire
R.W.Bro. K. J. Spencer	Provincial Grand Master for Staffordshire & Shropshire
R.W.Bro. C. Mihutoiu	District Grand Master for Romania
R.W.Bro. D. N. Hanson	Provincial Grand Master for Durham
R.W.Bro. J. V. C. French	Provincial Grand Master for Surrey
R.W.Bro. P. J. Furness	Provincial Grand Master for Cornwall

Past Provincial and District Grand Masters

R.W.Bro. M. Meade, P.Prov.G.M., Wiltshire (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. R. S. H. Hussey, P.Prov.G.M., Surrey (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. P. Connolly, P.Prov.G.M., West Lancashire (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. P. R. Clement, P.Prov.G.M., South Wales (2008–2016)
R.W.Bro. G. C. Craigs, P.Prov.G.M., Northumberland (2009–2020)
R.W.Bro. P. A. Norman, P.Prov.G.M., East Anglia (2010–2020)

R.W.Bro. C. M. Wilson, P.Prov.G.M., Sussex (2012–2020)
R.W.Bro. J. R. G. Hilditch, P.Prov.G.M., Oxfordshire (2012–2014)
R.W.Bro. P. Talbot, JP, P.Prov.G.M., North Wales (2012–2020)
R.W.Bro. R. S. Mac, P.Prov.G.M., Warwickshire (2012–2017)
R.W.Bro. D. Thomas, P.Prov.G.M., Monmouthshire (2013–2018)
R.W.Bro. A. I. Torrance, P.Prov.G.M., Kent (2013–2021)
R.W.Bro. K. J. Hicks, P.Prov.G.M., Cornwall (2014–2023)
R.W.Bro. I. N. Clark, P.Prov.G.M., Surrey (2014–2023)
R.W.Bro. J. G. Morgan, TD, JP, P.Prov.G.M., Somerset (2014–2019)
R.W.Bro. His Hon. I. D. G. Alexander, KC, P.Prov.G.M., Oxfordshire (2014–2019)
R.W.Bro. F. J. Gillo, P.Prov.G.M., Gloucestershire & Herefordshire (2015–2022)
R.W.Bro. D. E. Tremaine, P.Prov.G.M., Buckinghamshire (2015–2022)
R.W.Bro. A. S. McLaren, P.Prov.G.M., East Lancashire (2015–2021)
R.W.Bro. P. J. Balsom, P.Prov.G.M., Devonshire (2016–2022)
R.W.Bro. M. R. Heenan, P.Prov.G.M., Staffordshire & Shropshire (2016–2022)
R.W.Bro. K. M. Blackburn, OStJ, P.Prov.G.M., Isle of Man (2017–2022)

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. 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. His Hon. K. C. Cutler, CBE, P.G.S.W. Grand Registrar
R.W.Bro. R. A. Williams, OStJ, 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. D. M. Heath Deputy Grand Secretary
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. R. Deacon Grand Senior Deacon
W.Bro. S. C. Finn Grand Senior Deacon
W.Bro. P. Kelvin-Smith Grand Senior Deacon
W.Bro. J. H. V. Moore 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. B. A. Sarre..... Grand Junior Deacon
W.Bro. S. R. Dawes Assistant Grand Registrar
W.Bro. A. E. W. Bloxsome..... Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
W.Bro. F. W. E. Hatton Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
W.Bro. P. J. Swinge..... 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. P. G. Bowen	Assistant Grand Organist
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. 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. T. D. Dallas-Chapman.....	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. 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
W.Bro. P. Busby, A.G.D.C.	as Grand Tyler

Past Grand Wardens

- R.W.Bro. D. K. Williamson, P.G.S.W., 2002
- R.W.Bro. R. Schultink, P.G.S.W., 2022
- R.W.Bro. R. A. H. Morrow, P.G.J.W., 2004
- R.W.Bro. Lt Cdr A. P. D. Hannagan, *RD, MStJ*, P.G.J.W., 2015
- R.W.Bro. J. A. Harrison, P.G.J.W., 2018
- R.W.Bro. J. C. Edgcumbe, P.G.J.W., 2019
- R.W.Bro. R. Guthries, P.G.J.W., 2021
- R.W.Bro. D. J. Green, P.G.J.W., 2021
- R.W.Bro. B. D. Harry, P.G.J.W., 2021
- R.W.Bro. C. D. Hellyer, P.G.J.W., 2022
- R.W.Bro. F. A. Rankin, P.G.J.W., 2022
- R.W.Bro. J. C. Whitaker, *JP*, P.G.J.W., 2022

Brethren from Overseas

BELGIUM

- W.Bro. G. E. A. Denys, P.A.G.D.C., Dep.Dist.G.M.
- W.Bro. P. Neefs, Dist.G.Sec.
- W.Bro. G. D. Kavanagh
- W.Bro. G. Kritikos

GERMANY

- V.W.Bro. J. MacKinnon, P.G.J.O., Dep.Dist.G.M
- V.W.Bro. M. A. Walton, P.G.J.O.
- W.Bro. D. J. McDougall, P.G.S.D., A.Dist.G.M.

W.Bro. M. P. Parnham, P.A.G.D.C., Dist.G.Sec.
W.Bro. N. W. Schoen, P.A.G.Swd.B.
W.Bro. A. G. Cox
W.Bro. A. W. Wallace
Bro. D. Pearson
Bro. M. W. Stanley

GIBRALTAR

W.Bro. S. Soobiah
W.Bro. S. J. Whatley
W.Bro. R. L. Forrester, P.A.G.D.C.
W.Bro. A. C. L. Morillo
Bro. S. A. J. Whatley

HONG KONG

W.Bro. A. D. Ritchie, P.G.J.D
W.Bro. H. C. S. Chong

ITALY

W.Bro. Dr G. Onorati
W.Bro. G. Poli
Bro. L. M. Mascherpa

NIGERIA

W.Bro. F. Bob-Nabena

RIVER PLATE

W.Bro. F. D. Caprara
W.Bro. C. M. Stefanizzi, Dist.G.Sec.
Bro. D. F. Lopez Ugolini
Bro. J. W. Carrasco Reydet
Bro. O. R. Rojas
Bro. D. Acosta

SINGAPORE

V.W.Bro. R. P. Ng, P.G.J.O.
W.Bro. J. G. Bones, P.G.S.D.

SOUTH AND EAST CARIBBEAN

V.W.Bro. G. L. Gill, *SLMM*, P.G.J.O.
Bro. J. J. K. Herrera
Bro. C. R. Gosein

SPAIN

W.Bro. I. M. Crawford, P.G.S.D.
W.Bro. V. Climente-Valero, P.G.J.D.
W.Bro. R. A. Mitchell, P.A.G.D.C.
W.Bro. R. C. Bignell, P.A.G.D.C.
W.Bro. A. T. Best, P.G.St.B.
W.Bro. I. C. Gibson
W.Bro. J. M. Albouy
W.Bro. F. H. Wallace

THE NETHERLANDS

R.W.Bro. R. Schultink, P.G.S.W.
V.W.Bro. W. M. Schwab, P.G.J.O.
W.Bro. P. Kirpensteijn, P.G.S.D., Dep.Dist.G.M.
W.Bro. J. P. J. F. Koopman, P.G.J.D.
W.Bro. F. C. J. Poot, P.G.J.D.

W.Bro. R. H. M. Geerdes, P.A.G.D.C., Dist.G.Sec.
W.Bro. P. W. Haans, P.G.St.B., A.Dist.G.M.
W.Bro. W. M. Droogers, P.G.St.B.
W.Bro. J. O. Moller
W.Bro. H. V. Schultink
W.Bro. H. Van Tuil
W.Bro. C. J. Nederstigt
Bro. P. Bolhuis

ROMANIA

W.Bro. F. Serban
W.Bro. A. Stan
W.Bro. P. Ion
W.Bro. C. Turliuc
W.Bro. A. Dimitriu
W.Bro. G. Anatolie
W.Bro. D. Iorgulescu
W.Bro. C. C. Foamete
W.Bro. C. Anton
W.Bro. I. S. Alexandru
W.Bro. D. G. S. Dumitras
W.Bro. M. A. Bitea
W.Bro. C. Grigoraş
W.Bro. A. Petru
W.Bro. M. D. Martis
W.Bro. N. Grigore
W.Bro. G. Peltea
Bro. D. Craescu
Bro. I. Diaconescu
Bro. I. C. Stefan
Bro. O. C. Matei
Bro. D. M. Gheorghe
Bro. J. C. Horatiu
Bro. F. Litoi
Bro. L. Nicolae
Bro. C. M. Dragomirescu
Bro. A. Ghem
Bro. A. Cotuna
Bro. N. V. Pavel
Bro. O. Boncota
Bro. D. Marin
Bro. I. S. Gorgos
Bro. C. Teodorescu
Bro. M. M. S. Georgescu
Bro. D. Lemeni-Nitu
Bro. G. Victor
Bro. D. Adrian
Bro. C. F. Lazurean
Bro. S. Popa
Bro. C. Teodor
Bro. V. C. Ionita
Bro. J. C. Mihai
Bro. M. D. Opris
Bro. D. Bogdan

Bro. B. O. Claudiu
Bro. G. Stauder
Bro. M. G. Ciuperca
Bro. A. W. Alexandru
Bro. C. Jibleanu
Bro. V. P. Carpiuc
Bro. S. V. Hurezeanu
Bro. C. D. Nemes
Bro. S. A. Constantin
Bro. G. Cruciat
Bro. C. Gaina
Bro. K. G. Zoltan
Bro. R. Popescu
Bro. F. D. Costache
Bro. M. C. Stroe
Bro. L. Cozma
Bro. O. Gal
Bro. C. Adrian Paun
Bro. T. Dragos
Bro. A. Henciu
Bro. L. Robert
Bro. M. Seucea
Bro. S. N. Rolland
Bro. L. Szatmari
Bro. M. Turner
Bro. V. I. Dumitrache
Bro. S. A. Costel
Bro. T. A. Popa
Bro. R. Baltac
Bro. I. Florescu
Bro. V. F. Grigore
Bro. O. F. Iulian
Bro. T. Grasu
Bro. D. O. Spulber
Bro. E. M. Matau
Bro. B. Ruse
Bro. I. Acimovat
Bro. N. D. Lazarescu
Bro. A. Camen
Bro. H. G. Simu
Bro. R. S. Dan
Bro. A. Breward
Bro. A. Peter

Heads of Orders

R.W.Bro. P. R. Clement, P.Prov.G.M. (South Wales)	Grand Master – KT
R.W.Bro. G. L. Flight, P.G.J.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
V.W.Bro. C. G. Maiden, G.S.O.	Grand High Priest – KTP
V.W.Bro. Dr V. Thomas, JP, P.G.J.O.	Grand Master – KBHC
W.Bro. A. W. Llewellyn	Supreme Magus – SRIA

Deputations from other Grand Lodges

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF INDIA

R.W.Bro. A. K. Sharma, Dep.G.M.
R.W.Bro. R. Mookerjee, P.Dep.G.M.
R.W.Bro. J. P. Sharma, P.J.G.W.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF FINLAND

M.W.Bro. V. Allenan, G.M.
R.W.Bro. K. P. Hellgrén, Dep.G.M.
R.W.Bro. T. A. Majanen, P.Dep.G.M.
R.W.Bro. P. Lappalainen, A.G.M.
V.W.Bro. A. T. Nurminen, G.Sec.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF GREECE

M.W.Bro. A. Albanis, G.M.

NATIONAL GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF SWITZERLAND

R.W.Bro. F. Waridel, Dep.G.M.
R.W.Bro. N. Gough, G.S.W.
R.W.Bro. C. Mills, P.G.S.W.
V.W.Bro. B. Wakim, G.D.C.
W.Bro. F. Sahakian, G.Swd.B.
W.Bro. F. A. Scholl, A.G.Sec.

GRANDE LOGE DE MARQUE DE FRANCE RÉUNIE

M.W.Bro. D. Paquet, G.M.
R.W.Bro. L. Madier, G.Sec.
V.W.Bro. J. Luchini, G.D.C.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS NAUTONIER DE L'ARCHE ROYAL DE CÔTE DIVOIRE

M.W.Bro. A. R. Donwahi, G.M.
W.Bro. C. Servant, G.Treas.
W.Bro. J. C. Figali
W.Bro. I. Tajeddine

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS NAUTONIER DE L'ARCHE ROYAL GUINEA

R.W.Bro. A. Diallo, Dep.G.M.

GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND

W.Bro. J. Finlay
W.Bro. E. Nelson

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 Grand Master was saluted under the direction of the Grand Director of Ceremonies.

2. IN MEMORIAM

The Most Worshipful 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. Cedric Gunnery, P.G.S.W.; R.W.Bro. Alan Edgar Stewart, P.G.J.W.; and R.W.Bro. Frederick Arthur Smith, P.G.J.W. The Most Worshipful Grand Master also recalled the contribution to this and other Orders made by V.W.Bro. Robin Edward Furber, P.G.J.O., a former Grand Secretary General of the Ancient & Accepted Rite, and V.W.Bro. The Right Honourable The Viscount Gough. In addition, there were 53 Grand Officers detailed in the report of the General Board.

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

3. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

The Minutes of the Communication of Grand Lodge held on Tuesday, 7 March 2023, which had been circulated with the Summons, were taken as read, approved and adopted.

4. REPORT OF THE GENERAL BOARD

The Report of the General Board of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons for the three months ended 31 March 2023, as printed in **Appendix A** of the summons, was taken as read, approved and adopted.

5. THE KEYSTONE FUND RELAUNCH

The President of the General Board made the following announcement:

'Most Worshipful Grand Master and Brethren, the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Mason's Keystone Fund was established on June 3, 1930, with the primary objective being to help finance significant capital projects to enhance the fabric, facilities, and overall quality of Mark Masons' Hall, which serves as the headquarters of our Order. Throughout the next 50 years, Mark Masons' Hall moved location several times in central London, before settling at 86 St James's Street in 1979. During this period, the Keystone Fund continued to receive donations to support the maintenance of our headquarters, regardless of its location.

'In October 2006, during the 150th Anniversary Meeting of Mark Grand Lodge, the Keystone Fund was reinvigorated and renamed the 150th Anniversary Keystone Fund. Still, its core objective remained unchanged: to finance significant capital projects improving the infrastructure, amenities, and overall quality of Mark Masons' Hall. Over almost 100 years, the fund has received many individual, lodge, provincial, district, and inspectorate donations. All donations received by the fund have been faithfully applied, and those who have contributed are eligible to wear the distinctive Keystone Jewel.

'Provincial and District Grand Masters, as well as Lodge Masters, wear the Fund's Keystone Jewel Collarette, which often includes the 150th Anniversary Button. During installation meetings, Worshipful Masters transfer lodge collarette jewels to their successors, using the prescribed ritual. Additionally, individuals making donations are recognised with a breast jewel, which has a similar design. Many lodges have achieved multiple award levels, having fulfilled the required quota more than once. One lodge has accomplished the required donation quota ten times! Each multiple donation achievement is acknowledged by a small white keystone added to the Master's collar.

'The General Board has carefully reviewed the Keystone Fund, noting that its profile has been less visible in recent years, with a consequential reduction in donations being received. Therefore, it has been decided to repurpose the fund, while preserving its

esteemed history. The General Board has determined that the fund's purpose should be more contemporary and reflect current needs. Therefore, I'm delighted to announce that the fund's primary purpose will now be to grant awards that encourage and financially support individuals with their educational, vocational, and sporting achievements.

'Effective from today, donations made to the fund from individuals, lodges, provinces, districts, and inspectorates, will continue to be acknowledged with the Keystone Jewel Collarette and Breast Jewel, to which a new distinctive design of button will be added. The new button's design reproduces the Jewel appended to the Grand Master's collarette. The outer circle bears the name of the new fund in gold lettering on a background of crimson. Within the circle is a pierced cinquefoil knot on a white background, representing the Star of Solomon, overlaid with a white keystone. In the centre of the keystone is a triangle in crimson, the Mark Masters' Mark of Approval.

'Further information regarding the qualification status for individuals, lodges, provinces, districts, and inspectorates will be available shortly. For those who want to learn more, a stand has been set up at the Connaught Rooms this afternoon. Ownership of the fund is being transferred from the General Board to the charitable side of our Order, The Mark Benevolent Fund. And finally, Brethren: Most Worshipful Grand Master, I am pleased to announce that, in celebration and recognition of your extensive contribution to our Order, the fund will be renamed and will now be known as "**The Grand Master's Keystone Fund**".'

6. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTIONS AND REGULATIONS

On the proposition of the President of the General Board, and seconded by the Grand Secretary, the proposed amendments to the Constitutions and Regulations, as detailed in the Addendum to the Summons issued on 6 June, were approved and adopted.

7. APPOINTMENTS TO THE GENERAL BOARD OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS

The Most Worshipful Grand Master called upon the Grand Secretary who announced that the following Brethren will serve on the General Board:

V.W.Bro. W. A. Divall, P.G.M.O., President

R.W.Bro. R. J. Olliver, P.Prov.G.M. (Berkshire) – Deputy President

M.W.Bro. J. H. Prizeman, Pro G.M.

R.W.Bro. F. C. Spencer, Dep.G.M.

R.W.Bro. Prof. D. K. Wilson, A.G.M.

R.W.Bro. J. N. G. Howitt, P.G.S.W., G.Treas.

R.W.Bro. His Hon. Judge K. C. Cutler, CBE, P.G.S.W., G.Reg.

R.W.Bro. R. A. Williams, OStJ, P.G.J.W., G.Sec.

V.W.Bro. C. M. L. Davies, G.D.C.

R.W.Bro. J. Steggles, Prov.G.M. for West Yorkshire

R.W.Bro. D. R. Clancey, Prov.G.M. for North and East Yorkshire

8. ELECTIONS TO THE GENERAL BOARD OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS

The Most Worshipful Grand Master called upon the Grand Secretary who announced the Brethren elected to serve on the General Board:

R.W.Bro. I. N. Clark, P.Prov.G.M. (Surrey)

R.W.Bro. E. J. Rymer, Prov.G.M. for Worcestershire

There having been no other nominations and there being two vacancies, the Most Worshipful Grand Master declared these Brethren duly elected.

9. (a) MEMBERSHIP OF THE MANAGEMENT BOARD OF MARK MASONS' HALL

The Most Worshipful Grand Master called upon the Grand Secretary who announced the appointment of the following Brethren to serve on the Management Board:

M.W.Bro. J. H. Prizeman, Pro.G.M.
 R.W.Bro. F. C. Spencer, Dep.G.M.
 R.W.Bro. Prof. D. K. Wilson, A.G.M.
 R.W.Bro. P. R. Clement, P.Prov.G.M. (South Wales)
 R.W.Bro. G. L. Flight, P.G.J.W.
 R.W.Bro. K. J. Jones, P.G.S.W.
 R.W.Bro. T. F. Jackson, G.S.W.
 R.W.Bro. A. C. Sweeney, P.G.J.W.
 R.W.Bro. I. S. Currans, P.G.J.W.
 R.W.Bro. J. N. G. Howitt, P.G.S.W., G.Treas.
 R.W.Bro. R. A. Williams, *OSTJ*, P.G.J.W., G.Sec.
 R.W.Bro. J. C. Whitaker, *JP*, P.G.J.W.

10. APPOINTMENTS TO THE APPEAL COURT

The Most Worshipful Grand Master called upon the Grand Secretary who announced the appointment of the following Brethren to membership of the Appeal Court:

R.W.Bro. His Hon. I. D. G. Alexander, *KC*, P.Prov.G.M. (Oxfordshire)
 R.W.Bro. G. E. Bonham, P.Prov.G.M. (Northamptonshire & Huntingdonshire)
 V.W.Bro. J. C. Whitaker, *JP*, P.G.J.W.
 V.W.Bro. L. E. Bourne, *JP*, P.G.J.O.
 W.Bro. M. St J. French, P.A.G.Reg.
 W.Bro. M. C. W. Hall-Smith, P.A.G.Reg.

11. ELECTIONS TO THE APPEAL COURT

The Most Worshipful Grand Master called upon the Grand Secretary who announced that the following Brethren had been nominated for election by Grand Lodge to the Appeal Court:

R.W.Bro. K. J. Jones, P.G.S.W.
 R.W.Bro. R. L. Gan, *JP*, P.Prov.G.M. (Middlesex)
 V.W.Bro. Revd W. D. Payne-Jeremiah, *SBStJ, JP*, P.G.J.O.
 V.W.Bro. Cdr C. J. Aspinell, *RD, JP*, P.G.J.O.
 W.Bro. Revd M. C. G. Lane, *JP*, P.Dep.G.Chap.

There having been no other nominations and there being six vacancies, the Most Worshipful Grand Master declared the Brethren duly elected.

12. (a) MARK BENEVOLENT FUND

The Most Worshipful Grand Master called upon the Grand Secretary who advised that the Trustees of the Mark Benevolent Fund had made grants to the following worthy causes:

Sweetpea Smallholdings	£1,871
The Meniere's Society	£2,387
Sebastian's Action Trust	£2,920
Chailey Heritage Enterprise Centre	£12,950
Newcastle Wheelchair Rugby Club	£35,799
Children with Cancer Fund (Polegate)	£36,807
Mid Surrey Community Fridges	£42,702
Shelterbox – Turkey/Syria Earthquake (Emergency Grant)	£50,000
District of Romania – Ukrainian Refugee Fund	£75,000
TOTAL	£260,436

(b) ELECTION OF TRUSTEES OF THE MARK BENEVOLENT FUND.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master then called upon the Grand Secretary who announced the following Brethren as being nominated for election by Grand Lodge to serve as Trustees of the Mark Benevolent Fund:

R.W.Bro. K. J. Hicks, P.Prov.G.M. (Cornwall)
R.W.Bro. I. N. Clark, P.Prov.G.M. (Surrey)
R.W.Bro. D. R. Powell, Prov.G.M. for Monmouthshire

There having been no other nominations and there being three vacancies, the Most Worshipful Grand Master declared these Brethren duly elected.

(c) TRUSTEES OF THE MARK BENEVOLENT FUND

The Most Worshipful Grand Master called upon the Grand Secretary who announced the following Brethren as being appointed to serve as trustees of the Mark Benevolent Fund:

R.W.Bro. M. J. L. Whelan, *JP*, Prov.G.M. for Dorset
R.W.Bro. R. F. Richardson, Prov.G.M. for Sussex
R.W.Bro. R. J. Olliver, P.Prov.G.M. (Berkshire), Dep.Pres.Gen.Bd.

(d) The Most Worshipful Grand Master again called upon the Grand Secretary who named the following Brethren as being co-opted to serve as trustees of the Mark Benevolent Fund:

R.W.Bro. J. Steggles, Prov.G.M. for West Yorkshire
R.W.Bro. A. S. McLaren, P.Prov.G.M. (East Lancashire)
Bro. Dr T. C. Pakrashi

In addition to the stated appointments and elections to the Board of Trustees of the Mark Benevolent Fund, it was also confirmed that the Most Worshipful Grand Master had been pleased to appoint R.W.Bro. A. I. Torrance, P.Prov.G.M. (Kent), as President, and R.W.Bro. M. J. L. Whelan, Prov.G.M. for Dorset, as Deputy President.

In accordance with Section 4.1.3 of the Trust Deed, V.W.Bro. W. A. Divall, P.G.M.O., will remain on the Board of Trustees following his re-appointment as President of the General Board.

13. ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

The Most Worshipful Grand Master called upon the Grand Secretary who read the names of those nominated for election as Trustees of Grand Lodge:

M.W.Bro. J. H. Prizeman, Pro.G.M.
R.W.Bro. F. C. Spencer, Dep.G.M.
R.W.Bro. Prof. D. K. Wilson, A.G.M.
R.W.Bro. J. N. G. Howitt, P.G.S.W., G.Treas.

With no other nominations the Most Worshipful Grand Master declared the Brethren duly elected.

14. ELECTION OF AUDITORS

The President of the General Board proposed that Crowe U.K. LLP, Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors, be elected as auditors to Grand Lodge for the financial year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024. This was seconded by the Grand Secretary and the proposition carried without objection.

15. PROCLAMATION OF THE GRAND MASTER

The Brethren stood to order while the Grand Director of Ceremonies proclaimed M.W.Bro. His Royal Highness Prince Michael of Kent, *GCVO*, as Grand Master by his several styles as follows:

Be it known that HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE MICHAEL GEORGE CHARLES FRANKLIN OF KENT of Kensington Palace in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea in the County of Greater London; Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order; Knight of Justice of the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem; Honorary Vice Admiral of the Royal Naval Reserve; Honorary Colonel in His Majesty's Army; Honorary Air Marshal of the Royal Air Force; Provincial Grand Master for Middlesex in the United Fraternity of Antient Free and Accepted Masons of England;

Past Grand Scribe Nehemiah in the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England; Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33rd Degree and an Honorary Member of the Supreme Council 33rd Degree in the Ancient and Accepted Rite for England and Wales and its Districts and Chapters Overseas; Grand Master, etc., etc., etc., etc., has been elected and this day proclaimed Most Worshipful 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 Grand Director of Ceremonies called upon the Brethren to salute the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

16. APPOINTMENT AND PROCLAMATION OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL PRO GRAND MASTER

The Most Worshipful Grand Master stated: 'Last September Brother Prizeman succeeded to the office of Pro Grand Master following the retirement of Brother Raymond Smith, and during the relatively short time he has been in office, he has demonstrated strong leadership of the Management Board and an enthusiastic desire to engage more fully with other Masonic Orders, particularly the Craft and Holy Royal Arch.

'I have every confidence that he will continue to undertake the important duties of the high office to which I have appointed him with dignity and confidence and I therefore have no hesitation in re-appointing him for the coming year.'

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

Be it known that JOHN HERBERT PRIZEMAN, Past Grand Sword Bearer in the United Fraternity of Antient, Free and Accepted Masons of England; Past 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 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 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 Grand Registrar in the Grand Senatus of the Ancient and Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord in the British Isles and its Districts and Consistories Overseas; Knight Commander of the Priestly Orders 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; Pro Grand Master, etc., etc., etc., has this day been appointed and proclaimed 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 Pro Grand Master was saluted under the direction of the Grand Director of Ceremonies. The Pro Grand Master returned thanks.

17. APPOINTMENT AND PROCLAMATION OF THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

The Most Worshipful Grand Master stated: 'Brethren, Brother Spencer is well known to many of you having served the office of Provincial Grand Master for Worcestershire for ten years before succeeding to the office of Grand Director of Ceremonies. More recently, of course, he has held the high and important offices of Assistant Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master, the duties of which he has discharged with equal professionalism and I am therefore delighted to re-appoint him Deputy Grand Master for the coming year.'

The 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 of 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 Herald 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; Deputy Grand Master, etc., etc., etc., has this day been appointed and proclaimed 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.

18. APPOINTMENT AND PROCLAMATION OF THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL ASSISTANT GRAND MASTER

The Most Worshipful Grand Master stated: 'Brother Wilson is a distinguished academic and actively demonstrated his many qualities as a leader and teacher while Provincial Grand Master for Durham. His successful leadership of that Province quickly identified him as a future Ruler in our Order, so I was delighted to have the opportunity to appoint him Assistant Grand Master last year. Since then, Brother Wilson has undertaken his new duties with alacrity and I therefore have no hesitation in re-appointing him for the coming year.'

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 Herald 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 Lecturer in the Grand Senatus of the Ancient and Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord in the British Isles and its Districts and Consistories Overseas; Past Grand Standard Bearer in the Grand College of Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests and Order of Holy Wisdom; Assistant Grand Master, etc., etc., etc., has this day been appointed and proclaimed 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.

19. **INVESTITURE OF RECIPIENTS OF ACTIVE GRAND RANK AND BRETHERN IN RECEIPT OF FIRST APPOINTMENTS TO PAST GRAND RANK**

The Grand Secretary to read the list of those appointed to active office or first appointment:

Active Officers 2023/2024

Grand Senior Warden.....	Andrew Christopher Sweeney
Grand Junior Warden	Col. Simon D’Olier Duckworth, <i>OBE, DL</i>
Grand Master Overseer	Philip Graham Marshall
Grand Senior Overseer	James Stephen Wright, <i>TD</i>
Grand Junior Overseer	Philip Oldfield
Grand Chaplain	The Revd Justin Trevelyan Parker
President of the General Board	William Arthur Divall, <i>P.G.M.O.</i>
Grand Treasurer	John Norman George Howitt, <i>P.G.S.W.</i>
Grand Registrar	His Hon. Judge Keith Charles Cutler, <i>CBE, P.G.S.W.</i>
President of the Mark Benevolent Fund	Archibald Iain Torrance, <i>P.Prov.G.M. (Kent)</i>
Grand Secretary	Ryan Andrew Williams, <i>OStJ, P.G.J.W.</i>
Grand Director of Ceremonies.....	Christopher Martin Lee Davies
Grand Inspector of Works.....	Vincent John Driver, <i>P.G.J.O.</i>
Grand Sword Bearer.....	Paul John Gower
Deputy Grand Chaplain	Revd Anthony William Avery, <i>P.G.J.O.</i>
Deputy President of the General Board....	Richard John Olliver, <i>P.Prov.G.M. (Berkshire)</i>
Deputy Grand Registrar.....	Gerald Lane
Deputy President of the M.B.F.	Michael J. L. Whelan, <i>JP, Prov.G.M. for Dorset</i>
Deputy Grand Secretary.....	Daniel Mark Heath
Deputy Grand Directors of Ceremonies	Adrian Cleightonhills
	Andrew James Brown
	Andrew Charles Jennings
Deputy Grand Inspector of Works	Michael Alan Evans
Deputy Grand Sword Bearer	Melvyn Antony Cross
Grand Senior Deacons	David Peter Barden
	Aloysius Gerardus Maria Captijn
	Peter John Hayes
	Leslie Hutchinson
	Simon Paul Lancaster
	Geoffrey Malcolm Lates

Grand Junior Deacons.....	Norman Davies Andrew Edward Inglesfield Lee William Taylor Peter Allan Taylor Julian Trought Philip Andrew Watson
Assistant Grand Chaplain.....	Simon Alexander Thorn
Assistant Grand Registrar.....	Simon Robert Dawes
Assistant Grand Secretary.....	<i>vacant</i>
Assistant Grand Directors of Ceremonies.....	Nicholas Rupert Bacon Stuart James Cameron David Leslie Ryan John Elless Shaw Iain Barclay Walker Stephen John Whatley
Assistant Grand Inspector of Works.....	Derek Mersh
Assistant Grand Sword Bearer.....	David Pearson
Grand Librarian.....	<i>vacant</i>
Grand Organist.....	Mario Rizzardi, P.G.J.O.
Grand Standard Bearers.....	Surendra Chauhan Philip Francis Harley
Deputy Grand Organist.....	David Cynrig Timothy Gregory Roberts-Jones
Assistant Grand Standard Bearers.....	John James Burgess Allan Ian Christopher Gibson
Assistant Grand Organist.....	Paul Gareth Bowen
Grand Inner Guard.....	Michael Barry Smith
Assistant Grand Inner Guards.....	Brian Christopher Edmund Dack Gordon Edward Rosbotham
Grand Stewards:	
Ian Anthony Bailey.....	Buckinghamshire
Raymond Gordon Barton.....	Monmouthshire
John Betts.....	Devonshire
Anthony John Callister.....	Surrey
Clive Goodrum.....	Hertfordshire
Christopher Paul Hargreaves.....	Cumberland & Westmorland
Stephen Edward Heynes.....	Middlesex
Stuart Frank Jones.....	Cheshire
Simon Gray Angove Larard.....	Sussex
Arthur Edward Lewis.....	Berkshire
Warren Marsden.....	West Yorkshire
Brian McDonough.....	Lincolnshire
Christopher John Philip Metherell.....	Kent
Raymond Peter Pipe.....	Wiltshire
William Charles Robinson.....	East Anglia
Clive Rodney Snell.....	Essex
Gurdeep Singh Virdee.....	London
John Leonard Waggott.....	London
John David Watts.....	Durham
Christopher Michael Wildman.....	East Lancashire
David John Winder.....	West Lancashire
David Robert Wood.....	Hampshire & Isle of Wight
Grand Tyler.....	Paul Busby

First Appointments

Past Grand Senior Deacon

Paul Richard Engeham

Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies

David Leslie Allen

Ian Ronald Anderson

Nigel William Barry

Larry John Bensusan

Felix Brisbe Bob-Nabena

Colin Peter Bodimeade

Stephen Dennis George Bridge

John Edward Burnapp

Gary Charles Carter

Gnanasambandam Ponnusamy

Chidambaranathan

Henry Chong Chin Sheng

Luis Angel Civera Vargas

Craig Allen Cox

William Charles Mason Dastur

Robert Edwin Deacon

John Strachan Denham

Barry Dennis Devereese

Neil Eric James Devonald

Dieter Karl Dreyer

Freddy Duarte

David Victor Dyson

Gwyn Edwards

John Gordon Ellenger

Peter John Everest

Colin Patrick Farrington

Martyn Thomas Field

Robert Ian Frankl

Mark Julian Gilpin

Martin Charles Grahame-Dunn

Thomas Grey

Stanley George Grisedale

Paul Kwartei Hammond

Peter Hargreaves

Richard William Harris

Eric Hart

Richard Martin Haydon

Stephen Keith Hewitt

Neil Hollingsworth

Andrew Edward James Hopkins

David Hudson

John William George Hughes

Alan Richard Hulbert

Andrew Michael Johnson

Ian Richards Johnson

Brian Sion Jones

Brian Keith Julyan

Michael Karn

Geoffrey Declan Kavanagh

David John Kettle

John Kirk

Charles Edward Lord

Gordon Robert William MacLean

John David Miller

James Frederick Peter Mulligan

Neil Murray

Kravindra Nathan

Gianni Onorati

Malcolm Harvey Payne

Stephen Paul Pratt

Nigel Martin Reese

Nigel Roberts

Michael Joseph Roche

Nelson De Camargo Rosa

David Ward Stanley Royal

Frederick Russell

David James Sear

Selvan Soobiah

John Andrew Starling

Edmond Bernard Tondy Elio

Charles William Turner

Peter Bernard Joseph Tyson

William Derwent Tyson

Kenneth Carl Van Rooyen

John Robert Watson

Julian David Webster

Peter Ernest West

Thomas Bentley White

Colin Whittaker

Gordon Roger Wilde

Past Assistant Grand Sword Bearer

Henry Alan Barnes
Malcolm Brooks
Godfrey Kenyon Carpenter
Alan Robert Cockman
Howard Davis
Anthony Michael Dyson
Philip Robert Hind
Michael John Hulton
Timothy Robin Kirby

Georgios Kritikos
Nicholas William John Letherby
Paul Albert Levey
John Bedford Linley
Derek Noel Perkins
Gianfranco Poli
Gary Charles Stratmann
George Tuck
Patrick Colin Watters

Past Grand Standard Bearer

Robert Adams
Robin Gerald Appleby
Philip John Bignold
Andrew Richard Bull
Fernando Daniel Caprara
Terry Douglas Case
John Michael George Cluver
Frederick Cogger
Edward Abdul Conell
John Joseph Edgar
Anthony Etherington
Raymond Ernest Heath
William Elliott Hobson
David John Howe
Laurence Richard Kavanagh

Philip Mark Laming
David John Leigh
Werner Lothmann
Anthony Richard Marston
Alan Edward Oldham
Jeremy Paul Reese
Hayo Vincent Schultink
Carlos Miguel Stefanizzi
Martin Raymond Stokes
Edward John Symonds
Peter Vernon
Christopher John Wild
George Thompson Wise
Alan Frederick Wismann

Past Assistant Grand Standard Bearer

Josep Ma Albouy
David Battensby
Steven Christopher Cann
Michel Finley Felix
Adrian Charles Foulkes

Alan Gregory
Shaun Haynes
Peter Marshall
Kanti Mistry
David John Smith

20. ADDRESS BY THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER

The Most Worshipful Grand Master addressed Grand Lodge as follows:

Brethren, change is often desirable, frequently necessary but always inevitable and in the wake of the recent pandemic our Order, like so many others, has had to adapt not just to the post-pandemic world in which we now live but also to meet the needs of our Brethren in the twenty-first century.

I am greatly encouraged to learn from the Grand Secretary that stability has returned to the Orders administered from Mark Masons' Hall. Headcount and membership numbers are rising steadily; there is an increasing confidence among the Brethren and a renewed enthusiasm to resume our labours as Freemasons.

If evidence of this recovery was required, we need look no further than the Grand Temple today. That so many of you have made the effort to attend this meeting is very gratifying indeed and serves to underline the value we all place on our Brotherhood and sharing in the joys of Mark Masonry.

Brethren, each of the mainstream Masonic Orders is separate and distinct with its own story and teachings, but they all share a set of common values. Those values bind us together in the worldwide family of Freemasonry and encourage us to work together for the good of all. This has become a resoundingly strong theme of the renewed focus to

bring the Craft and Companion Orders closer together which Most Worshipful Brother Jonathan Spence, Pro Grand Master and Pro First Grand Principal, spoke about when he addressed Grand Mark Lodge in March, and I encourage you all to actively embrace the opportunities this will undoubtedly create.

During the last year I have enjoyed exceptional support from the Pro Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and Assistant Grand Master all of whom have travelled extensively in England and Wales and overseas. In each case, their reappointment today is an acknowledgement of their commitment to our Order, and I thank them for all that they are doing to develop Mark Masonry at home and abroad. This afternoon I have been pleased to invest over two hundred Brethren with Grand Rank and to each of our worthy recipients, I offer my warmest congratulations. The award of Grand Rank is not something that is given without careful consideration. It 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 still further to promote the Order at every opportunity.

Brethren, I have always been impressed by the support you give to the Mark Benevolent Fund which has conscientiously distributed funds to worthy causes in our communities and supported Brethren and their families in times of hardship.

It speaks volumes about the Order and its members that even after making these grants, the Fund continues to grow and is now more financially stable than at any time in its history.

During my visit to Romania late last year, I was able to meet a group of Ukrainian refugee families for whom the Mark Benevolent Fund has been a lifeline providing food, shelter, clothing, and education via an initiative run by Mrs Diana Constantin-Tiglar. Those of you present at the March Communication will have heard her speak passionately about the work she is only able to do with our support and, although the size of the Ukrainian refugee population in Romania far exceeds our capacity, the impact on those families we are able to assist is life changing.

Today sees the retirement of Right Worshipful Brother John Bell after nine years as a Trustee of the Mark Benevolent Fund, the last three years of which he served as President of the Fund. Brother Bell has been a great advocate for the Mark Benevolent Fund, working diligently to foster strong relations with various grant recipient charities, most notably Hope for Tomorrow. I am most grateful to Brother Bell for all his efforts on our behalf and wish him well in his retirement from active office.

Also retiring as a Trustee today is Right Worshipful Brother David Ashbolt who was first appointed to the Board of the Mark Benevolent Fund in 2017. He too has displayed a deep commitment to the Fund achieving success with the new Provincial Festival Jewel Scheme raising a significant sum in a relatively short time. I extend to him my personal thanks for all that he has achieved in the last six years, particularly as Deputy President since 2020.

Brethren, we have always enjoyed great support from our daughter and sister Constitutions at this meeting and this year is no exception. I should like to welcome them all by name and would ask that you refrain your applause until I have come to the end of what is quite an extensive list.

From the United Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of India, R.W.Bro. Ashok Kumar Sharma, Dep.G.M; R.W.Bro. Raja Mookerjee, P.Dep.G.M., and R.W.Bro. J. P. Sharma, P.G.J.W.;

From the Grand Lodge of Finland, M.W.Bro. Ville Allenan, G.M.; R.W.Bro. Kimmo Hellgrén, Dep.G.M.; R.W.Bro. Pasi Lappalainen, A.G.M.; V.W.Bro. Antti Nurminen, G.Sec.; and R.W.Bro. Timo Majanen, P.Dep.G.M.;

From the Grand Lodge of Greece, M.W.Bro. Anastassios Albanis, Grand Master;

From the National Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Switzerland, R.W.Bro. Francois Waridel, Dep.G.M.; accompanied by R.W.Bro. Norval Gough, G.S.W.; R.W.Bro. Colin Mills, P.G.S.W.; R.W.Bro. Bernard Wakim, G.D.C.; W.Bro. Francis Scholl, A.G.Sec.; and W.Bro. Fraffi Sahakian, G.Swd.B.;

From Grand Lodge de Marque de France Réunion, M.W.Bro. Dominique Paquet, G.M., accompanied by R.W.Bro. Lionel Madier, Grand Secretary, and V.W.Bro. Julien Luchini, G.D.C.;

From Grand Lodge of M.M.M. of the Ivory Coast, M.W.Bro. Alain-Richard Donwahi, G.M.; accompanied by W.Bro. Christophe Servant, G.Treas.; W.Bro. Jean Claude Figali; and W.Bro. Ibrahim Tajeddine;

From the Grand Lodge of M.M.M. of Guinea, R.W.Bro. Abdoulaye Diallo, Dep.G.M.;

From the Grand Lodge of Scotland, W.Bro. Jimmy Finlay and W.Bro. Ellis Nelson.

Now from our own Constitution, we welcome:

From Belgium, R.W.Bro. Jean Verbist, District Grand Master; accompanied by four of his Brethren, including two recipients of Grand Rank today;

From Germany, R.W.Bro. Michael Cooper, District Grand Master; accompanied by nine of his Brethren

From Gibraltar, R.W.Bro. Derek Tilbury, District Grand Master, accompanied by five members of the District;

From Hong Kong, W.Bro. Andrew Ritchie and W.Bro. Henry Chong Chin Seng;

From Italy, W.Bro. Gianni Onorati and W.Bro. Gianfranco Poli, both recipients of Grand Rank today, and Brother Lorenzo Mascherpa;

From Nigeria, W.Bro. Felix Bob-Nabena, P.A.G.D.C. – a recipient of Grand Rank today;

From River Plate, R.W.Bro. Ernesto Marcer, District Grand Master, accompanied by six of his Brethren including W.Bro. F. D. Caprara, P.G.St.B., and W.Bro. C. M. Stefanizzi, P.G.St.B., both recipients of Grand Rank today;

From Romania, R.W.Bro. Cristian Mihutoiu, District Grand Master and eighty-seven of his Brethren;

From Singapore, W.Bro. Ronald Ng and W.Bro. John Bones;

From the District of South Africa (Eastern Division), R.W.Bro. Richard Poole, District Grand Master;

From South and East Caribbean, V.W.Bro. Llewellyn Gill, accompanied by W.Bro. Jerome Herrera and Bro. Curtis Gosein;

From Spain, R.W.Bro. Barrie Mansell, District Grand Master and eight members of his District including two of today's recipients of Grand Rank;

From the Netherlands, R.W.Bro. Cornelis van Putten, Dist.G.M.; accompanied by thirteen members of the District.

I now wish to welcome the Heads of our other Orders:

R.W.Bro. Paul Clement, the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master of the Great Priory of the United Religious, Military and Masonic Orders of the Temple;

R.W.Bro. Graham Flight, Grand Sovereign of the Grand Imperial Conclave of the Masonic and Military Order of the Red Cross of Constantine;

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

R.W.Bro. Tom Jackson, Grand Master of the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees;

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

W.Bro. Paul Mycock, First Grand Master of the Worshipful Society of Free Masons;

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

V.W.Bro. Dr Vivian Thomas, *JP*, Grand Master of the Knights Beneficent of the Holy City ;

and W.Bro. Tony Llewellyn, Supreme Magus of the Societas Rosicruciana in Anglia.

Brethren, I am sure you would wish to welcome our visitors from overseas in the traditional way.

Brethren, I want to thank you all for making the effort to be here today on what is a very special occasion. I am immensely proud to have been your Grand Master for the last forty years and I can do no better than repeat what I said at my installation in 1982 – the words spoken by my father when he became Grand Master in June 1939:

'I can assure you that it will be my great endeavour during the time that I hold this high position to do all I can to promote the interests of the Order.'

Brethren, I look forward to continuing to serve the Order for as long as I am able.

21. CLOSING

Grand Lodge was closed in Ample Form.