

PROVINCIAL lite

THE MAGAZINE FOR EAST KENT CRAFT AND ROYAL ARCH

www.eastkentfreemasons.org

SUMMER 2021 ISSUE



Photo: Val Ray

IN THIS ISSUE

Subject	Page
Editorial	3
Holy Royal Arch website	4
Cymbolick Penalties	5
Surprise Win for Noah Smith	7
John Baker on HRA in 2022	8
George's Ship Comes In	10
Andrew Berry: Old Blue to Light Blue	13
What's in a Name?	14
Learning Ritual the Visual Way	16
Universities Scheme Challenge Cup Walk	20
Gundulph Rises to the Challenge	22
Fair Play in Newington	24
Peter Williams Head of Mark in East Kent	25
Big Changes at Prince George	26
Group 8 Walk for Pathology Unit	29
Raising Funds for Prince Philip's Charities	30
Scouts to recreate Shackleton Expedition	32
Charity Bike Ride	34
More about Chapter	36
An Audience with Sir Ranulph Fiennes	37
Golfing News from Paul McGuirk	40
2025 Festival: A Little and Often?	46
2025 Festival Events	47
Your Communications Team	50

EDITORIAL



What's that, blowing in the wind?

Ah, it's dust and rust.

The dust as we open those magnificent tomes, our Ritual Books. Come on, be honest: how much time have you spent recently looking at them?

The rust as we try to recollect what we do in our meetings. "Now, how do we open the Lodge?" "What was the Principal Sojourner supposed to say at the Festive Board?" "I'd better refresh the Address to the Brethren."

There are going to be a few "unforced errors" as we get back into the swing of things. Lodge of Instruction should be fun. Who will be first this year to say, "Worshipful Mother"?

Whatever, I'm sure we are all looking forward to getting back to our usual routine, meeting and greeting and sharing in the wonderful, uplifting world of Freemasonry.

Not that we haven't been active in the past seventeen months – far from it! In our usual quiet way, we have been raising money for our 2025 Festival and for the Cornwallis East Kent Freemasons' Charity, and, where possible, enjoying sporting events and the occasional (socially-distanced) meeting. Check out the following pages for some of the things we have been up to.

Fingers crossed (a new Masonic sign?) we'll soon be back to normal.

More roasties, anyone?

John Ray

Email: editor@theprovincial.org



The Provincial website

<https://eastkentfreemasons.org/>

has a new Holy Royal Arch section

Take and look and

Find out more!

ROCKIN' ON WITH THE CYMBOLICK PENALTIES



The Cymbolick Penalties playing at a Party in the Park for Kent Mark Masons

WHO ARE THEY?

The Cymbolick Penalties are a band of former professional and semi-professional musicians - all East Kent Freemasons - who came together in 2010 to provide live music for the Provincial pantomime *Aladdin* held that year.

Afterwards the band continued to rehearse and went on to play at various Masonic fundraisers.

They recorded their first CD in 2012, copies of which were sold to raise funds for the 2014 Festival. The band continued to play live at the Provincial pantomimes and at a number of other charitable events. They recorded *The Poppy Song* for the World War I commemorative exhibition at the Kent Museum of Freemasonry in 2018 and an original song called *Helping Hands* - written and composed by the band - for the Cornwallis East Kent Freemasons' Charity, which was used in the charity's video.

Band members are Jake Jackson - bass guitar and vocals, Alan (Pinki) Kilburn - lead guitar and vocals, Graham (Fingers) Mitchell - keyboards, Roger Waltham - guitar and Andy Notley - drums. They are joined occasionally by Steve Povey - saxophone and guitar.

Andy Notley writes:

What's been happening with the band since we last reported on them in 2019 in the first edition of the *Provincial Lite*? Graham Mitchell told us then that the band was in the studio recording some more audio tracks.

House of the Rising Sun by the Animals was one of our then Provincial Grand Master Geoffrey Dearing's favourite songs and was included in his selection of desert island discs at the Sir Edward Elgar Lodge. When Geoffrey announced his retirement as PGM, the Cymbolicks recorded a cover of this song and presented him with a copy, together with a framed platinum disc of the Animals' original vinyl recording.

Twelve Days of Christmas - In December 2019, Lodges and Chapters from all over East Kent were invited to provide groups to sing *The Twelve Days of Christmas* which, when complete, was made available for everyone to enjoy. The Cymbolicks provided the backing track that was used for those recordings.

Remote recording - The pandemic prevented any band get-togethers in the studio but, during the first lockdown, they recorded a cover of the Rolling Stones' *You Can't Always Get What You Want*. Each member recorded his part at home and emailed his track to Jake who compiled it all together in his studio. Backing vocals were recorded and supplied in a similar way. In the autumn, while the restrictions were eased, they took turns to visit the studio for video recordings, which Jake then combined with the audio track. This was posted on the Provincial Facebook group and attracted interest.

The Kent Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre in Canterbury planned to hold a 'Music Shack' festival in 2020 but, because of the pandemic, changed it to an online event. The Cymbolicks, who had played at the charity's previous festival in 2018, were invited to take part. While recording the videos for *You Can't Always Get What You Want*, the band members were also videoed playing over some of their other pre-recorded audio tracks. Jake then compiled them into a half-hour video album which the MS Therapy Centre posted online. The video was recently posted on the Provincial FaceBook group. To see one of those tracks, *My Achy Breaky Heart*, copy and paste this link into your browser: <https://youtu.be/tiS2ojX0L-Q>

Jake also produced a limited edition DVD - *The Cymbolick Penalties Lockdown Album 2020* - copies of which were given to a few close associates of the band and which helped to raise some funds for the MS Therapy Centre.



What next?



The Cymbolick Penalties relaxing at their recent barbecue
(L-R) : Andy Notley, Roger Waltham, Alan ("Pinki") Kilburn, Jake Jackson, Graham ("Fingers") Mitchell

The band members and their wives met recently to enjoy a barbecue and make plans for the future.

Beginning with a warm-up session to loosen up their joints after months of musical inactivity, the band intends to continue rehearsing and recording an assortment of covers and original songs. Other musicians, who are also East Kent Freemasons, including the Provincial Choir, will be invited to take part where possible. Indeed John Gallagher, the Provincial Grand Chapter Charity Steward, has already contributed by playing his cello in the band's recording of Sky's *Toccata* (Bach's *Toccata and Fugue in D Minor*). The band look forward to enjoying each other's company and making more music, and maybe another CD or a DVD, if it can be used to raise funds for worthwhile causes.

SURPRISE WIN FOR MODEST NOAH!

When Belvidere's Noah Smith enrolled on the Light Blues Brothers Golf Competition on the 26th June, he joked to fellow Lodge members, "Can't play but going to give it a go".

And, to his apparent surprise, he won!

On being praised for his "hidden talents", he said, "No, no hidden talent, just good luck on the day, I think".



WHAT DOES THE NEXT YEAR HOLD FOR THE ROYAL ARCH?



John Baker, Deputy Grand Superintendent, Province of East Kent, writes:

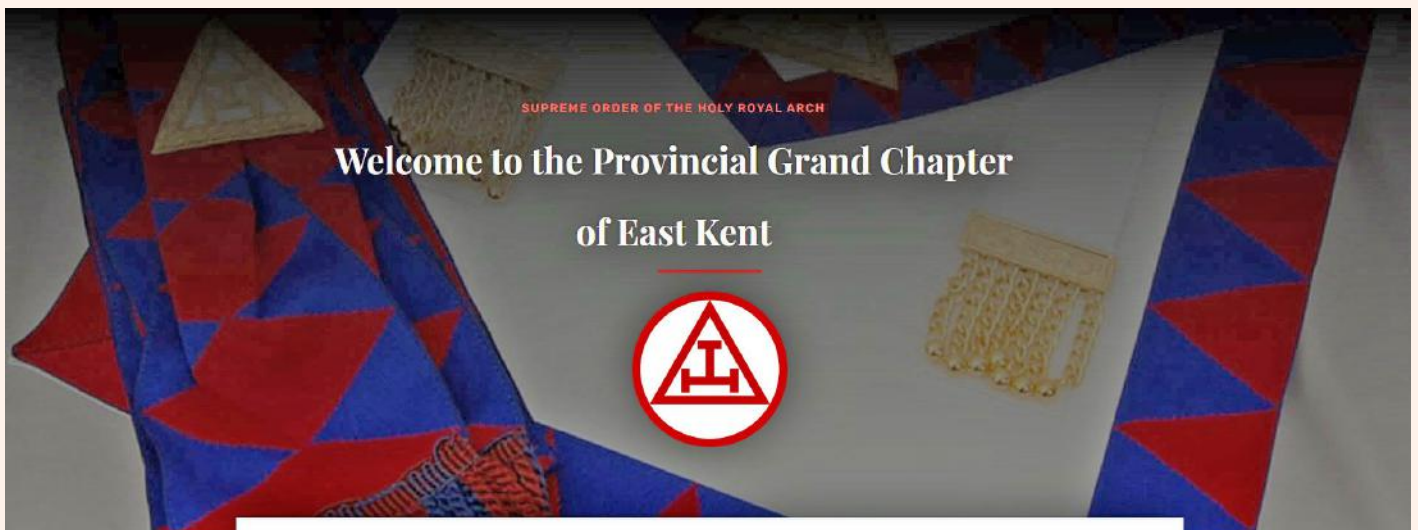
Reflecting on the uncertainty and challenges of the last 15 months, my first thought on being asked this question was, "Where's my crystal ball?"! Not possessing one I was drawn to the following quote by Peter Drucker to help frame a suitable response.

"The best way to predict your future is to create it".



The relevance of the quote lies in the fact that creating our future is precisely what the Royal Arch in East Kent has been focused on over the last few years and something that will continue to occupy us. In essence the future will be what we make it. I firmly believe that it will be one that is increasingly enjoyable and rewarding for us all.

During lockdown we have sought to maintain the interest of Companions by regularly publishing a variety of informative papers about the Royal Arch which has generated some very positive feedback: something we intend to continue.



Communication will continue to be of prime importance; a new Royal Arch section has already been added to the Provincial Website and more content will continue to be added over time, similarly the use of social media will grow while traditional methods of communication will take on a brighter and more attractive format.

Communication is of course a two-way process and we have already embarked on a series of 'listen and learn' events to better understand the views and needs of our companions and these will continue. People have indicated they would welcome more assistance in learning and delivering ritual and this is something we will be putting in place at the earliest opportunity. We have all benefited from the use of packages such as Zoom over lockdown and no doubt they will continue to be used to good effect, although probably not with such frequency.



A significant library of information now exists on YP2 (yourprovince.org/yp2/) which is complemented by an ever-increasing variety of resources on Solomon (solomon.ugle.org.uk).

It's rather obvious to state that the benefit to be gained by accessing such information relies on the each individual's motivation, but encouraging people to understand the usefulness of such material is important and as this message receives greater emphasis, I'm sure we will increasingly see these resources being used to good effect. (*'Watch this space' for a new Solomon module that is being developed for new Exaltees and will be released in the near future*)!

The profile of the Royal Arch has been raised significantly over the last few years and the importance of its relationship with craft Masonry continues to be emphasised at the highest level, as a result more people are recognising that the Royal Arch is the completion of pure ancient Masonry and being attracted to join it. This greater visibility is also reflected in the work currently being undertaken by the Membership and Communication Working Party, one anticipated outcome of this work will be a Royal Arch Membership Pathway, which is expected to be launched next year, this will sit alongside the new Members Pathway for the Craft, which is scheduled to be introduced this autumn. The introduction of 'Hermes' will also be of future significance, particularly for Scribes.



Companions, if you asked me to summarise what the future will look like, I'd have to say: - Ultimately it's going to be what we make it and that's something we should all be contributing to, but personal view is that the future looks **'ROSY'**!!

GEORGE'S SHIP COMES IN!

11-year-old "Master Mariner" wins the Great East Kent Boat Race!



Scores of East Kent Freemasons and their families went down to the sea on Sunday 2nd May, ready to launch a flotilla of small boats in the Great East Kent Boat Race – and all to raise money for the Province's 2025 Festival. The idea was simple: you paid a £10 entry fee, for which you were sent a small boat kit. All you had to do was put it together, paint it in your own distinctive colours, and bring it down to one of five East Kent beaches. Small fortunes were at stake: the boat that travelled furthest in the next couple of days would win its owner £100, the second £75 and the third £50. Although all were launched on an ebb tide, Mother Nature had other ideas, and blew many of them straight back onshore! Nothing daunted, willing helpers waded in and "persuaded" them to float out further. The race was on!

Winner by a nautical mile – well, by a good distance – was 11-year-old **George Davis**, whose grandfather Ron said he last saw his boat, launched on Margate beach, heading towards the berm just past the Turner Contemporary building. Says Ron, "George's boat was the second of ours launched and spent most of its early sailing asleep on its side! He was delighted to receive his winnings".

David Pearson's boat came second. Said David, "It's an absolute thrill to be runner up in this prestigious event. All of the hard work in designing, building and decorating the vessel and the investment in a top-of-the-range guidance system has paid off. I would like to thank my support team, and Janine and her mum, who brought the hot chocolate and the dog. I would also like to thank yourselves for organising the event. I look forward to returning with a new design and colour next year".



Not far behind in a very creditable third place was **Phil Green**, accompanied by Jo, Jack and Luke. Said Phil, "We think this was a great fundraising event for Freemasonry as it involved the whole family: both of my children "Jack and Luke" painted our boat, I assembled her, and my good lady Joanne did the signwriting.

"The launch day started off being a little inclement regarding the weather, however it cleared resulting in a perfect late afternoon at Hythe seafront. All who joined us were in high spirits and many jovialities were exchanged between the brethren and their families during registration. The Launch also brought out the best in entertainment: much gratitude goes to the brothers who disrobed to swim out in the chilly uninviting waters as far as possible to usher our boats towards Boulogne as best they could.

"We left the beach believing we had no chance and thinking we would never hear of our "Hopeful Redwing" again - but we all collapsed in laughter when we received the news that she came third.

"I'm not sure if this is already an annual event because it is the first one we have attended; but we look forward to other activities like this in the future".

Our thanks to sponsors The Patriot Group and all who helped to make the Event a success.





George receiving his cash prize

Old to New to Light Blue

The developing story of East Kent's first New and Young Masons' Lodge

Andrew Berry, steering committee chairman, writes:



In late 2019 the East Kent Light Blues Brothers Club was reformed, to bring new and young Masons together. The launch created a lot of interest within the province and a young team

worked hard to keep things going through the various rounds of lockdown. During this time the idea of creating a Lodge for EKLBB members took shape and another group of Light Blue Masons got together to start the planning. With the assistance of Province, a suitable Lodge was identified and an agreement reached for the EKLBB to join them.

The Old Roffensian Lodge is a School Lodge for the Old Boys and Masters of King's School Rochester. The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of Kent, The Right Hon. The Lord Cornwallis, with sixteen Founder members drawn from Old Boys and Masters of King's School, consecrated it on 12th January 1965 in Gundulph Masonic Hall, Rochester. 140 sat down to the preliminary luncheon. The first regular meeting was held on Monday 26th April 1965 when Francis Barrington-Baker was installed in the Master's Chair.

Originally the by-laws specified that the Lodge was open to Old Roffensians (i.e. past pupils at the King's School Rochester), current and former Masters and Governors of the School. This criterion was later expanded to include Lay Clerks of the Cathedral who had signed the Foundation list.

As time went by this was further expanded to include siblings and fathers of Old Roffensians and then sons of Old Roffensians. However, to move into the future, the Lodge further widened

its membership criterion to embrace men who do not necessarily have a connection with the School but who live and work in North Kent and who can appreciate the ethos of a school founded in 604 AD and the charitable aims of Masonry.

In June 2022 the Lodge will adapt once again as it embraces the East Kent Light Blues Brothers and is reborn. It will be the place for new and young Masons from across East Kent to meet.

The Lodge will continue to convene four times a year but it is proposed that it will move around for its meetings, to bring its new and unique brand of Masonry to all corners of the Province.

The aim of the Lodge is to promote the social side of Masonry and with a lighter touch on tradition. The Lodge will be closely aligned with the EKLBB club and will allow club members, who have to resign on taking Provincial honours, to keep their friendships in the Lodge environment.

For further information on how to be involved with the East Kent Light Blues Lodge, please contact Andrew Berry at:

berry.andrewj@gmail.com



WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Many of our Lodges and Chapters have interesting, even exotic, names. But what do they mean, and why were they chosen? Here is another selection of some of the more intriguing and fascinating examples. My thanks to the Secretaries and Lodge members for the information.

THE PHAROS LODGE No.6967



The Pharos in Dover Castle dates from the second Roman Invasion of Britain. It was erected about A.D. 43, which establishes it as the oldest existing building in the country. It served as a beacon or lighthouse for Roman shipping entering Dover from the Continent. Dover was then, as now, the most convenient port in Britain for that purpose.

Two of these structures were built by the Romans to mark the entrance to the harbour at Dover, which was at the mouth of the River Dour, situated roughly where the Market Square now stands and where the public house known as The Roman Quay is situated.

The Pharos in Dover Castle was the eastern beacon; the other was situated on the Western Heights to the west of the harbour. This latter building no longer exists but traces of it remain and are known as the Bredenstone.

All the Founders of the Lodge were either Old Boys or past and present members of the staff of Dover Grammar School for Boys. For many years The Pharos has been the name used for the School magazine: an artist's impression of the building has been incorporated on the front cover since 1913. The Old Boys' Association has been known for many years as the "Old Pharosians".

The original function of the Pharos and the School motto Fiat Lux and all that both imply have a significant Masonic meaning, and the Founders of the Lodge felt justified in adopting both for the Lodge. Both are expressed in the Lodge crest which was designed by Keith Crush, an Old Boy of the School.

The membership of the Lodge was restricted to former pupils or staff of the Dover Grammar School for Boys until 1993 when it was decided that, in order to safeguard the future of the Lodge, membership would be opened to everyone who met the high standards of moral conduct laid down by the Founders.

Noun. 1. pharos - a tower with a light that gives warning of shoals to passing ships. beacon light, lighthouse, beacon.

Information supplied by Arthur Hornby, Lodge Secretary

PORTA MARIS LODGE No.4287



Porta Maris Lodge, based in Margate, was Consecrated in 1921. The name comes from the inscription on the Borough's Coat of Arms, signifying the Gate of the Sea.

Here is part of the speech made by the Rev. Canon J R Leigh at the Consecration about the Lodge's motto, *Nisi Dominus Frustra*:

"May I point your attention to the little book which prescribes the form of the Consecration ceremony? There on its front page is set out of course, very fitly and appropriately, what I assume may be regarded as the facsimile of the banner, under which this new Lodge we are about to Consecrate is to embark on its young Masonic venture and take its honoured place among the already existing Lodges of the Province [...]"

"That emblem, thus depicted, carries underneath it the words 'Nisi Dominus frustra' as the explanation of its existence and as the defining purpose for which it claims right of authority to act.

"These old words, in their import, have so survived the ages as to come down to us in our time and day, the lapse of centuries of time.

"Unless God is at the top of things, unless He is the Great Architect of the structure of our Masonic and individual and personal life, then, well, 'Frustra,' it is in vain.

"Unless God is recognised as President of your and of every Lodge, unless He controls and directs its activities and affairs, unless the Great Architect of the Universe continues to preserve the Order and every unit of it, well, then, 'it is but labour lost'. It is the case of another fulfilment of the warning of the old Poet King - viz., 'Nisi Dominus frustra'."

The Lodge banner was refurbished six years ago in anticipation of the Lodge's Centenary this year.

Information supplied by Sean Frampton, Lodge Secretary

LEARNING RITUAL THE VISUAL WAY

If you are a Freemason, you'll know that a large part of our Ceremonies is devoted to morality plays, called *Degrees*, in which we learn about and teach our role in the grand scheme of things and how we can become better people.

Any actor will tell you that learning one's lines is a bit of a challenge. Some are better at it than others. If you have a part to learn and find it hard, don't worry: as long as you do your best, others will happily be on hand to help you if you need it.



Graham Chisnell is Education Officer for the Province of East Kent. He has been supporting our Group Mentor Coordinators as we return to Masonic activity. A great Mentor, he says, will hold a myriad of skills in his back pocket to ensure the Brethren have rich opportunities to deepen their Masonic knowledge and interest. In addition to the daily advancement of Masonic knowledge that we all try to achieve, the Mentor can support Brethren in learning their lines (the Ritual) by equipping them with a range of strategies to help their Masonic memory retention.

Here are two memory techniques that can help.

Visual Memory Techniques

How it works

Your brain naturally forms links between ideas, sounds, images and actions, so you can use pictures to help cement your memory of Ritual. When faced with learning the part called the *First Degree Tools*, take the first phrase, 'I now **present** to you the Working Tools of an Entered Apprentice Freemason'. Take a key word to form an image in your mind from this phrase. For example, you could use the word **present** to make a link with the image of a **present**, drawing a simple picture of a present to remind you of the phrase. As you build your memory of the entire piece, the images act as a prompt and really help with the flow of Ritual when 'delivering' the Tools.

I have written a book exploring the use of visual images when learning Ritual. I created a set of visual prompts for the Working Tools. While the system does not work for everyone, it may work for you and could be worth a read. Have some fun creating the images. If you have a Brother who is talented at drawing, you can have a real laugh while creating images that can act as a powerful memory hook to key phrases within the First Degree Tools. A small pad or wipe clean board and pen can act as a useful tool to doodle on during the Lodge of Instruction (LOI) and is a great way to keep the Brethren who are not in a floor position (not participating in the Ceremony) active and engaged during the session.

Using the five-step visual memory technique outlined in my book:

- 1- Decide on an image for a key word in a given phrase
- 2 - Read through with the images
- 3 - Visualise the images as you read through the text
- 4 - Transfer to the image only and recite the text
- 5 - Use the images in your mind's eye to lead you through the Ritual

How it helps

Visual memory techniques that link images to words can act as a powerful scaffold for your memory. Visual images can be linked to tough pieces of Ritual: linking images to key words in the Ritual you learn help to keep your memory on track when faced with delivering the piece during a Ceremony.

Making the mystery of memorising Ritual visible is really empowering. Some find memorising tough, some easy. There is no short cut to memorising Ritual, but little techniques make the memory stick more easily and make the recall smoother. Visual techniques like this are great fun and provide another memory hook upon which you can hang key pieces of Ritual. If the technique is used regularly, the Brother will be able to bring visual images to mind in the Lodge when faced with a piece of tough Ritual that act as a prompt to their delivery, keeping the flow of Ritual going without the need for prompting by an anxious Director of Ceremonies.

Bear in mind: nothing replaces hard work when learning Ritual, but a visual memory technique can make the journey more purposeful and more fun. Try this visual technique to power up your Masonic memory.

Checklist

- Target tough pieces of Ritual that don't seem to stick in your memory.
- Practise using drawings / images to grow your capacity to memorise and recall, linking key words to eye-catching images.
- Practise, practise and then practise to make the memory 'stick' using the 'five-step visual memory technique'.
- Share the images that work for you in LOI.

Memory Techniques - Mnemonics

mnemonic

/niˈmɒnɪk/

noun

a system such as a pattern of letters, ideas, or associations which assists in remembering something.

How it works

We all approach learning Masonic Ritual using a range of memory techniques. Many Brethren will depend on one or two strategies that work for them. There is a real opportunity, however, to offer Brethren opportunities to develop further techniques in memory retention. Some Brethren will use mnemonics to remember, such as remembering a sequence of words using their initial letters. Mnemonics are effective and help when recalling sections of Ritual. An example of mnemonics is to use '**O**ld **A**ge **P**ensioner' to recall the sequence in the First Degree Tools, 'which should keep down all vain and unbecoming thoughts which may **O**btrude during any of the **A**forementioned **P**eriods'; an idea taken from David Royal's super book on **Masonic Mnemonics**.

You may choose to buy David Royal's book as a guide for extending your repertoire of Masonic Mnemonics. Alternatively, you could ask Brethren at LOI about their use of Mnemonics that work for them. Have some fun with this and share the mnemonics that work for you.

How it helps

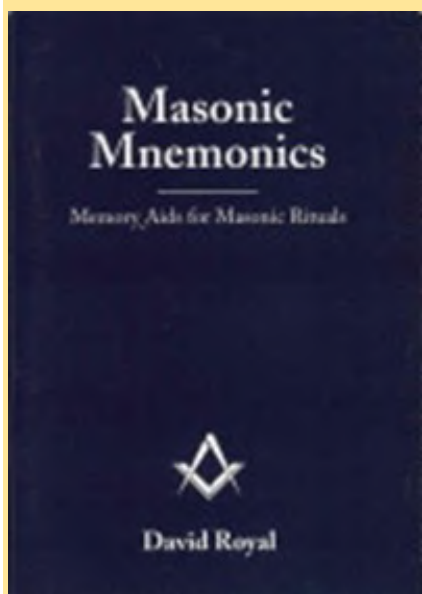
Making the mystery of memorising Ritual visible is really empowering. Some find memorising tough, some easy. There is no short cut to memorising Ritual, but little techniques like mnemonics make the memory 'stick' more easily and make the recall smoother. Nothing replaces hard work when learning Ritual, but memory techniques can make the journey more purposeful and the memory more lasting. Find your preferred techniques and use them to power up your Masonic memory.

Checklist

- Build in time to share Brethren's techniques for remembering key sections of Ritual
- Practise using the techniques out loud to grow your capacity to memorise and recall.
- Practise, practise and then practise to make the memory 'stick'.
- Share the techniques that work for you in LOI.

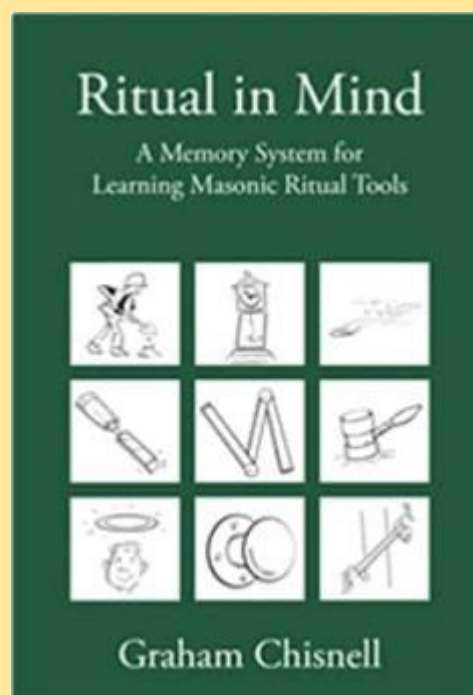
Whether using visual clues or mnemonics, have fun playing around with these techniques if you find yourself struggling to remember key words or phrases within the Ritual. If the techniques work for you, share these with your Brethren and build your role as a personal Mentor to others.

RECOMMENDED READING:



Masonic Mnemonics by David Royal, Lewis Masonic Publishers

Ritual In Mind by Graham Chisnell, on sale at Amazon



UGLE Universities Scheme Challenge Cup Walk

Chris Sanford of the Pentangle Lodge No.1174 writes:

Here's a Challenge with a difference. A replica of the DKW Cup (named after David Kenneth Williamson, founder of our Universities Scheme) is being taken around England and Wales to visit the home of every Universities Scheme Lodge in those countries.

The Event is in aid of the Duke of Edinburgh Fund, in recognition of the support of much of his work for young people, as well as for the Masonic Charitable Foundation.

The planned route is 2021 miles long and will be walked (as much as possible) in a relay fashion.

The Challenge Cup arrives in Rochester!

The sun beat down on Rochester Bridge on a hot Thursday afternoon this summer as the West Kent Team were walking from Sidcup to Rochester on their leg of Universities Challenge Cup Walk. Their arrival was imminent.

The reception committee were having a leisurely drink, in the shade, outside the Crown pub on the east side of the bridge with a good view awaiting the approach of West Kent.

Pentangle No.1174 was the University Lodge ready to take up the challenge next. John Allen and I from Pentangle were waiting with Provincial Grand Master Neil Johnstone and East Kent's Universities Scheme Coordinator Howard Griffin for the cup to arrive.

Slowly but surely the West Kent Team came across the river, West Kent's PGM Mark Estaugh leading them, smoking a cigar and laughing and joking with his Team. Mark was greeted by Neil Johnstone with hearty congratulations. The Team were offered a drink and a well-earned rest.



After some chat and the refreshments, the West Kent Team were taken up to the Castle Gardens for the formal hand-over of the cup.



Friday was cooler than Thursday, but it was still good enough for the Pentangle Team's walk from Rochester to Hempstead House, Teynham, where the cup would be handed on that evening to the Order of Women Freemasons before moving on to the East Kent Light Blues Brothers on the Saturday morning.



Our Team stopped for necessary refreshment breaks, including the Manor Farm in Rainham plus the odd stop for water and selfies. Andy Yeates, pictured, recorded that he had walked 32,388 steps, equating to 15.9 miles, between Rochester and Teynham, taking about four hours.

The support team (me) carrying the first aid kit, water and the cup arrived at Hempstead House first, followed shortly by the walking team.

Job done!



But the Cup and the story continue.....

GUNDULPH RISES TO THE CHALLENGE

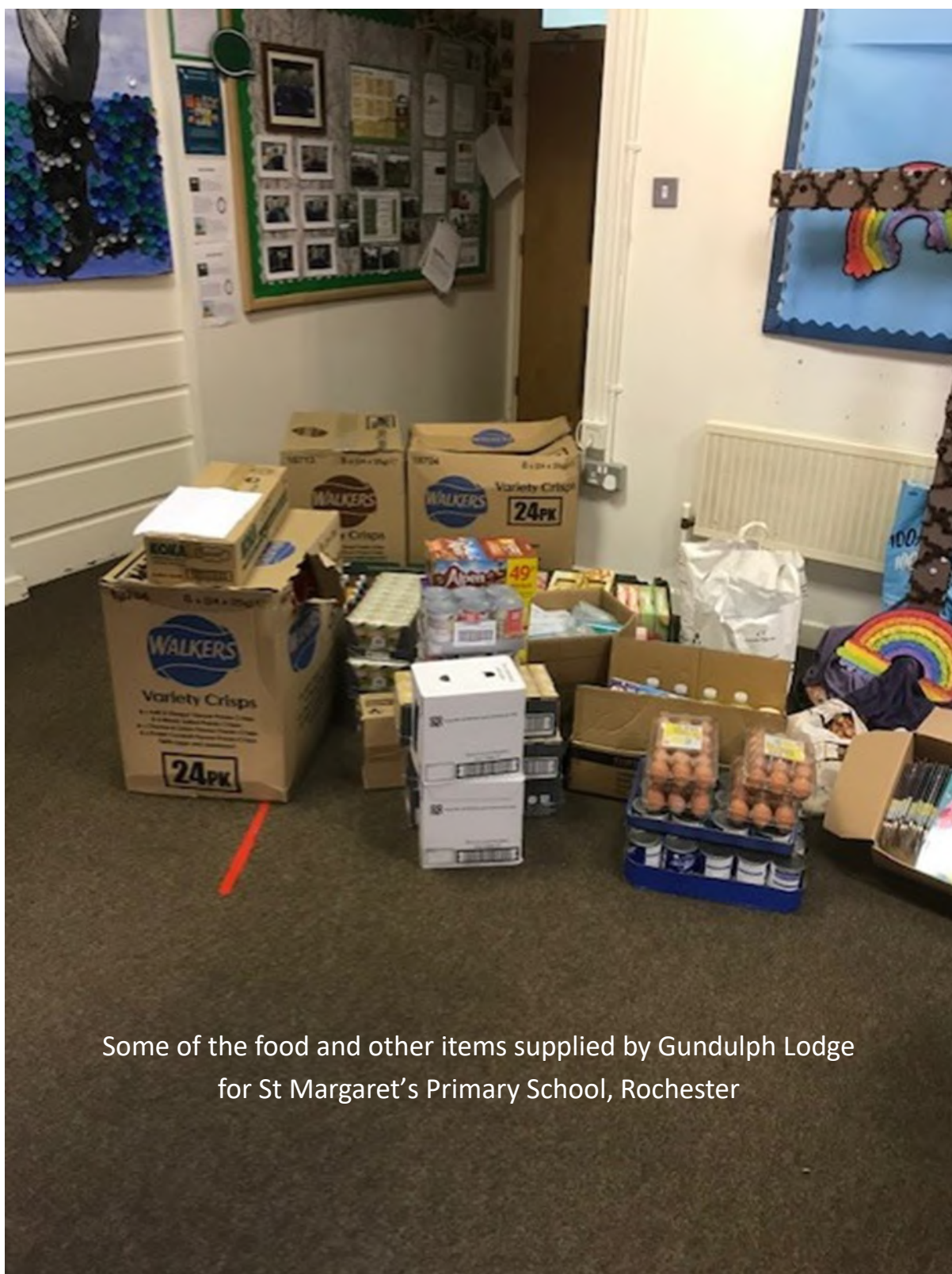
John Legg, Treasurer of the Gundulph Lodge No.1050, writes:

St. Margaret's Primary School at Troy Town, Rochester, needed help this Spring to provide food and basic essentials for the pupils and their families. The school contacted Gundulph Lodge. One Zoom meeting later, the Lodge leapt into action. The Lodge of Instruction and individual Lodge members raised some £400, and within a week Eddie Bates and Rick Kalsi handed over a variety of sixty staple diet food products as well as cleaning materials and sanitary products to Head Teacher Ms Jobling and St Margaret's Special Educational Needs Coordinator Mrs Galea-Baker.

Priority families with two or more children were contacted and were given parcels of food and other items equivalent to an all-round weekly shop.



Thanking the Lodge for its generous donation, Ms Jobling said, "The contribution and support from the Brethren of Gundulph Lodge has impacted enormously on the families and provided them with a great range of items".



Some of the food and other items supplied by Gundulph Lodge
for St Margaret's Primary School, Rochester

FAIR PLAY FROM GROUP 3 AND THE CEKFC IN NEWINGTON

Martin Ransom writes:

At the end of March 2019 our Cornwallis East Kent Freemasons' Charity (CEKFC) received a funding application from Newington Parish Council.

The Council wanted to extend and improve the existing play area within the recreation ground for the benefit of all children within the village. It was also to be available for the neighbouring villages of Lower Halstow and Upchurch. It was intended to suit all abilities within that large area.



Existing equipment was old, not fit for purpose and had been condemned. The initial request was for a new seesaw, but Group 3 Lodges and Chapters raised enough money, matched by the CEKFC, for a completely new properly fenced secure area for all children.



The villages celebrated the official opening on the 3rd July 2021. I had the honour of representing the CEKFC. Several families brought picnics and made it an afternoon of enjoyment.



PROVINCE OF EAST KENT



Supporting the 2025 Festival

Brethren,

Following the retirement of RW Bro Archibald Iain Torrance as the Provincial Grand Master of Mark Master Masons, The Grand Master, MW Bro His Royal Highness Prince Michael of Kent GCVO, has invited VW Bro Peter David Williams, Past Deputy Provincial Grand Master of the Province of East Kent, to succeed him. RW Bro Archie Torrance has held this position for eight years and should be congratulated on the huge successes throughout his tenure.

RW Bro Neil Hamilton Johnstone, Provincial Grand Master, sends his personal congratulations and heartiest best wishes to Peter for when he takes up his new appointment on the 24th September. The Provincial Executive also wish to congratulate him on his well-deserved appointment and look forward to celebrating this enormous honour with him.

I am sure that every member of the Province of East Kent will share with us in congratulating Peter and wishing him every success in his new role.

David Andrew Graeme
Provincial Grand Secretary

BIG CHANGES AT PRINCE GEORGE DUKE OF KENT COURT

In 1842 the United Grand Lodge of England, English Freemasonry's ruling body, set up a Royal Masonic Benevolent Annuity Fund for men (and for women in 1849).



The first Home was opened in East Croydon in 1850 and the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution (RMBI) was established.

The Home remained in Croydon for over a hundred years, by which time there was a need for bigger premises, and in 1955 it was transferred to Harewood Court in Hove.

In 2016 the four Masonic charities were brought together to become the Masonic Charitable Foundation (MCF). The RMBI became The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution Care Company, or RMBI Care Co.

Today, RMBI Care Co. has eighteen Care Homes in England and Wales and supports older Freemasons, their families and people in the wider community with residential care, nursing and dementia support.





Prince George Duke of Kent Court, the fourth RMBI Home, was established in 1968. Located in a pleasant area in Chislehurst, Kent, it is well placed to serve Freemasons from the East and West Kent Provinces and London. David Barber (pictured) is Chairman of the Association of Friends of the Home. Having heard that big plans were afoot, we asked David to give us an update.

Plans for the Home

Plans are well ahead to upgrade the Home to provide specialist care for residents having a variety of needs with a new separated area for those suffering from dementia as well as a nursing wing and facilities for general residential care. The dementia area will include a specially designed activity area and a sensory garden. All rooms that currently share amenities will be converted to en-suite and redecorated.

Plans have been submitted, tenders have been received and the RMBI is committed to the work, which it is hoped will be starting shortly. Once it is complete there will be nineteen beds in the dementia wing, twenty-five in the nursing wing and twenty-two residential beds, making a total of sixty-six. Current occupancy is paused at fifty-five so that residents can be relocated temporarily while the en-suite bathrooms are fitted.



In the New Year work will begin on refurbishing the old residential flats in the grounds of the Home which will then be rented out on a commercial basis.

Popular Music Therapy Continues

For the past eighteen months, the residents of Duke of Kent, Court have been enjoying and benefitting from a weekly visit by a music therapist from Nordoff-Robbins, a charitable organisation dedicated to investigating the impact that music therapy can have on those affected by life-limiting illness, isolation or disability.

The therapist has been leading weekly sessions over a whole day reaching all areas of the Court - residential, nursing and dementia care - on both a group basis and on a one-to-one basis. A recent survey of residents placed these sessions at the top of their 'enjoyment' list.



Unfortunately, the Home's budget for this valuable service has been severely restricted due to the cost of COVID: without additional financial support they would have been unable to continue with the weekly sessions. However, with the addition of a generous donation from the Province of West Kent, the Association of Friends has agreed to support the provision of the music therapist from their reserve fund for another year.

Details of how the Province of East Kent can continue to support the Association of Friends are currently being discussed and will be announced shortly.

To learn more about the Association of Friends and to become a member please visit their website www.friendschislehurst.org

To learn more about the Home and the services it offers, visit the website www.rmbi.org.uk/home/prince-george-duke-of-kent-court-kent

GROUP 8 WALK FOR PATHOLOGY UNIT



Birchington



Westgate



Margate



Broadstairs



Ramsgate

The Queen Elizabeth Queen Mother Hospital, Margate, managed by the East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust, has won funding from the NHS of £1.8 million to develop a **Clinical Trials Unit** within the hospital.

The Hospital will need some £20,000-£22,000 to equip the Unit with the required instrumentation.

Members of East Kent Province's Group 8 under the leadership of the group's Charity coordinators Ray Hazelton and Glyn Raven have agreed help raise £22,000. An application for support has also been made to the Province's Cornwallis East Kent Freemasons' Charity.



On Saturday 15th May 2021, Group members Adam Taylor and Michael Salter (pictured), of The Trinity Lodge No.7021, Margate, completed a twenty-two-mile sponsored walk in support of the appeal. Starting in the pouring rain and following a route set by John Matthews of the Minnis Bay Lodge No.8496 the walkers set off from the Birchington Masonic Centre early that morning. Encouraged throughout by members of Trinity Lodge, six hours and fifty minutes later and having taken some 47,000 steps they were welcomed back at the Birchington Centre by members of the Trinity Lodge.

Adam and Michael were proud and pleased to announce that they had raised at least £500 towards the appeal.

"We wanted to do this walk as this is such a worthy cause and felt that we could help to kickstart the initiative while getting us outdoors - all within the Covid restrictions."

Said Group 8 Chairman Jim Mason, "This is a tremendous start to the fundraising and is an excellent example of how, when our Lodges

and Chapters work together, we can make that important difference".

EAST KENT FREEMASONS TO RAISE FUNDS FOR CHARITIES SUPPORTED BY PRINCE PHILIP

To honour the late Prince Philip, Freemasons have launched a campaign inviting their 200,000 members to raise funds for charities that the Prince dedicated his life to.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh was himself a Freemason, having been introduced into the Craft in 1952 at the age of 31 by his father-in-law King George VI. Throughout his ninety-nine years, he was associated with some 992 charities, either as president, patron or as an honorary member.

The Prince supported charitable organisations in the fields of scientific and technological research and development, the encouragement of sport, the welfare of young people, conservation and the environment.



Photo from Freemasonry Today magazine

Over the past year or so East Kent Freemasons have given 12,500 Face Shields and fifty Samsung Galaxy Android Tablets to Kent hospitals and supported vulnerable families in Kent by supplying more than four tons of food to banks.

Dr David Staples, Chief Executive of the United Grand Lodge of England (UGLE), said: "Prince Philip was well known for his charity work, having been involved with numerous organisations. He was devoted to philanthropy and therefore the best way to celebrate his life is by supporting the charities that the Prince himself supported.

"For us, this was an easy decision as Freemasonry's core values are charity, integrity, respect and friendship. The Freemasons have been quietly getting on with making society and the lives of those less fortunate better for more than three centuries," said Dr Staples.

Freemasons worked some 18.5 million hours each year as volunteers in a range of different areas, including driving vulnerable people to hospital, preparing meals, taking care of people at risk, organising care packages, and producing scrubs, personal protective equipment (PPE) and hand sanitiser.

They also donated more than £1m last year to the Covid effort, with the funds being used to help communities in various critical areas, including foodbanks, support for unpaid carers, PPE, supplies for hospitals and hospices, support for women's refuges, and funds for NHS workers, ambulances and equipment.

As a Freemason, the Duke of Edinburgh was initiated into the Navy Lodge No.2612, in December 1952 and progressed through the Second and Third Degrees the following year. He remained a member up until his death.

The Duke was born in Corfu on the 10th June 1921, the only son of Prince Andrew of Greece and Princess Alice of Battenberg. He therefore also held the title Prince of Greece and Denmark.

Freemasons can also count other members of the Royal Family among their number, including HRH the Duke of Kent, who is the longest-serving Grand Master of the UGLE.

THE PROVINCIAL OFFICE

The East Kent Provincial Office is now fully manned again following the easing of COVID restrictions.

Province of East Kent,
11 Estuary View Business Park,
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Whitstable,
Kent CT5 3SE.

Telephone number: 01227 272804

Fax number: 01227 264125

Email: office@eastkentfreemasons.org

Provincial Grand Secretary: David Graeme

KENT'S SCOUTS RECREATE SIR ERNEST SHACKLETON'S EXPEDITION TO ANTARCTICA ON THE 100th ANNIVERSARY

Exactly one hundred years after Sir Ernest Shackleton's last expedition to Antarctica, Kent Scouts are returning, with help from the Freemasons in Kent.

Kent Scouts is one of the largest Scout counties in the UK, preparing 17,000 young people with Skills for Life supported by 6,000 adults.



The ReQuest2021 expedition will see ten Scouts sail this winter on the Bark Europa Tall Ship (pictured) from South America to Port Lockroy. There they will conduct personal research projects and present their findings on their return. Scouts back in Kent will join in the fun and adventure using “Antarctica in an Ice Box” activity packs.



The Freemasons of Kent have donated £5,000 in sponsorship. Alan Noake, Kent Scouts project leader, said, *“The team are immensely grateful to Kent Freemasons, who are now our biggest Sponsor, for helping the project to inspire all Scouts to learn some important lessons of peace, environment and heritage from Antarctica”.*

A spokesperson for East Kent Freemasons said, *“This is another example of collaboration between our two great organisations, one which will have a lasting impact on the lives of so many young people”.*



In fact, this collaboration is yet another echo of the original expedition. Sir Ernest Shackleton was a Freemason, a member of the Navy Lodge No.2612, which meets in London. Two of his crew, James Marr and Norman Mooney, were Scouts. They were selected from 1,700 applicants and supported by Robert Baden-Powell, Scouting's founder.

In April this year a sponsored rowing event took place at Dulwich College. With two high profile rowing machines either side of Shackleton's famous James Caird lifeboat, and lots of other rowers participating simultaneously on rowing machines remotely, the starting flag was waved.

The aim was to clock up 1,500 kilometres (the equivalent of 800 nautical miles or 933 miles!) – the amazing distance covered by Sir Ernest Shackleton and five of his men on the Endurance expedition's incredible boat journey. Shackleton took seventeen days to row from Elephant Island to the island of South Georgia, and the ReQuest team set themselves the same target for their event.

On 17th September, one hundred years to the day since Shackleton raised a Union Flag donated by King George V and sailed from London, the ReQuest2021 team will raise a Union Flag that once flew over Baden-Powell's Brownsea Island campsite and then sail under Tower Bridge. The team will later fly the Brownsea flag at Port Lockroy Antarctic base.

PEDALLING FOR CHARITY

Peter Floyd writes:

Saturday 12th June was hot – possibly a bit too hot. But that didn't deter these lovely chaps from cycling from Gravesend to Margate to raise money for the East Kent Province's 2025 Festival on a Sponsored Charity Bike Ride.

Wayne Spring of Rochester's Beacon Court Lodge No.1967 organised the Event. The first stop-over was at the Sittingbourne Masonic Centre, where the cyclists started to arrive at around ten o'clock for a welcome break and some refreshments.



(L:R): Dean Marley, Dave Mantle, Robin Evans, John Foster, Andy Palmer and Mark Randall

Trevor Carter, Chairman of the Province's Group 3, kindly provided doughnuts for everyone. On arrival at Sittingbourne and at Margate, the cyclists were greeted by Assistant Provincial Grand Master Mark Bassant and Provincial Grand Charity Steward Peter Rhodes.

For all his trouble, poor old Wayne Spring received more than one puncture en route. Fortunately, there was plenty of help on hand to assist with the repairs.

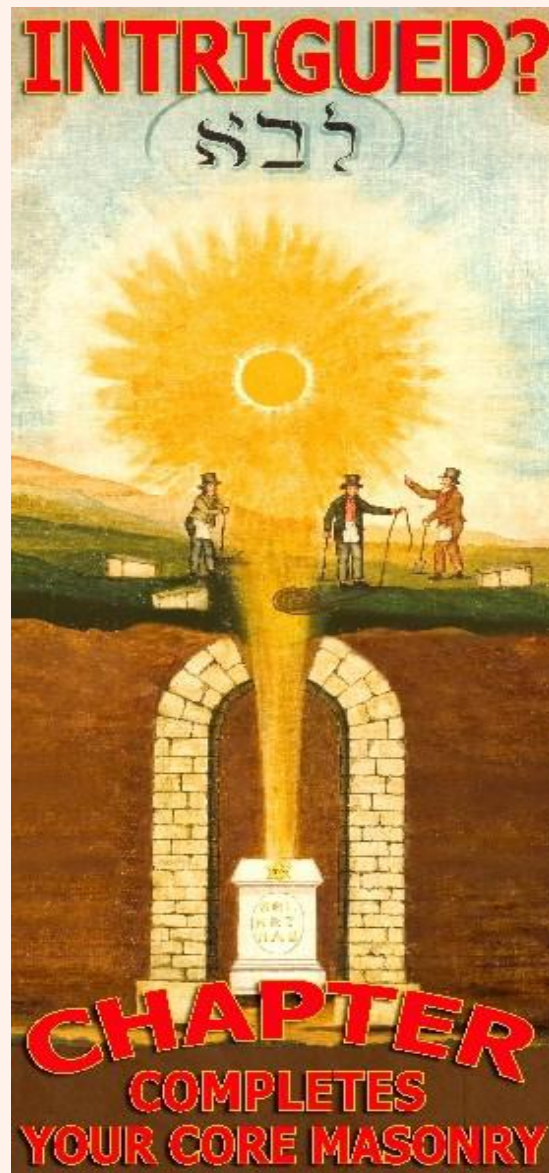


(L:R): Mark Randall, Wayne Spring, Andy Palmer, Paul Hulatt, Kevin Brett, Dean Marley, Robin Evans, Dave Mantle and Mark Foreman



One is tempted to ask; "How many Masons does it take to repair a puncture?" Wayne Spring looks on.

Thinking about joining the Holy Royal Arch?



What is this Royal Arch? In what sense can it be the completion of pure ancient Freemasonry? On the story level, the Third Degree does not provide the ultimate. We do not receive the *Genuine Secrets* of a Master Mason. We are left with 'Substituted Secrets', which are provided until 'time and circumstance' restore the *Genuine* ones to us. The 'Genuine Secrets' (in several parts) are discovered within the Royal Arch. Are they worth finding? Well - that is a judgement best left to you.

You will never know until you penetrate beyond the veil

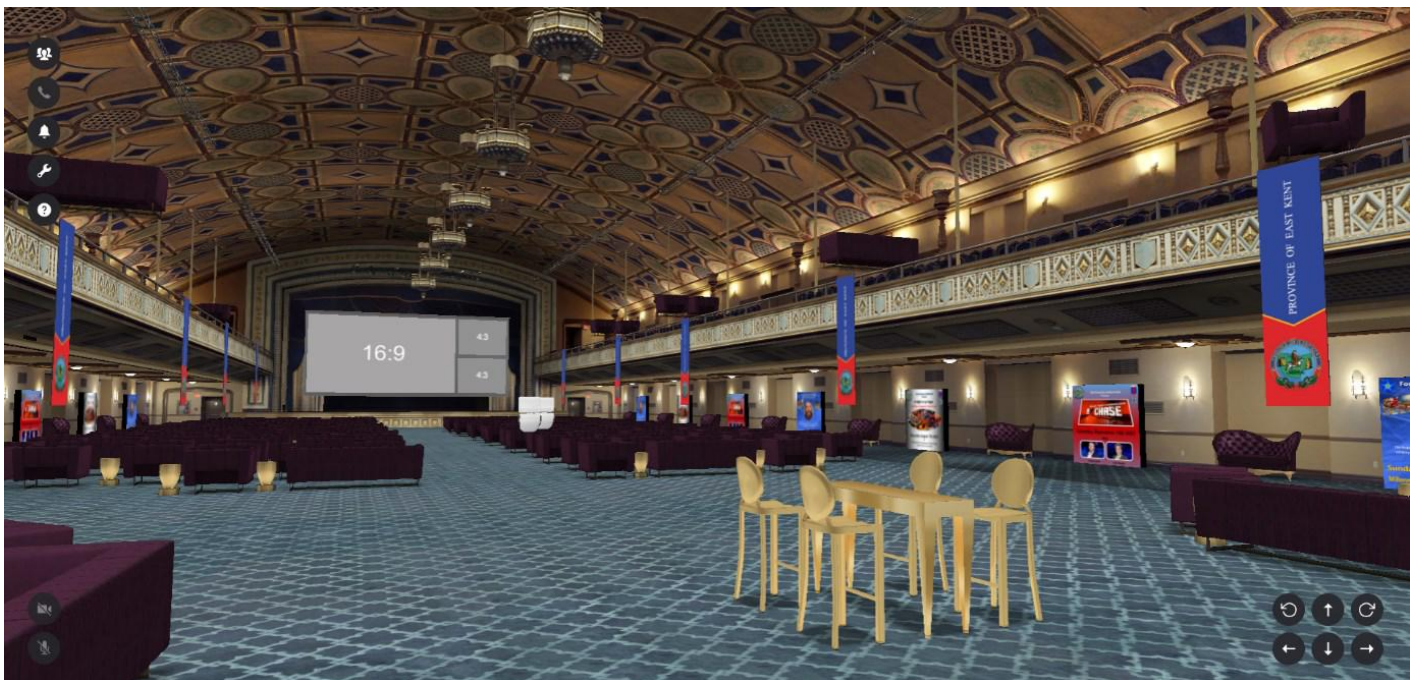
**To join now, email Pat King at patrickking@sky.com
or to re-join, email Terry McGlone at terry.mcglone@sky.com**

AN AUDIENCE WITH SIR RANULPH FIENNES

John Ray reports:

You may have heard of Sir Ranulph Twisleton-Wykeham-Fiennes, 3rd Baronet, OBE. You may know him better as Sir Ranulph Fiennes, British explorer, fundraiser, author and poet. If you look at his website, www.ranulphfiennes.co.uk, you will see that the Guinness Book of Records has described him as “the world’s greatest living explorer”.

The Province of East Kent entered the pioneering spirit itself on the 26th June when, with the help of sponsor David King’s Patriot Group and technical expert James Bacon, it presented its very first Virtual Theatre Event: “An Audience with Sir Ranulph Fiennes”.



Virtual Theatre is an exciting new concept that is taking the business world by storm. Think of it as Zoom with legs on. You buy your ticket, book in on the night with your PC, Mac or laptop at the electronic theatre and mingle with all the other guests. Browse the adverts and posters on the walls. See someone you want to talk to? Using the arrow keys on your keyboard, simply “walk” up to them and give them an electronic tap on the shoulder. Now you can talk, just like you do with Zoom. When the show is ready to start, make your way to the auditorium and bag yourself a seat. You provide the popcorn, Virtual Theatre provides the entertainment.

On the 26th, we guests began arriving from 6.30 pm and had fun mixing and mingling with others. Provincial Grand Master Neil Johnstone was there, along with other members of the Provincial Executive. A great opportunity to do a bit of lobbying!

Spot on time at 7 pm came the announcement: “Please take your seats in the Auditorium: the Main Event is about to start”.

The audience hushed. Actually, we didn’t have any choice, for ‘conversation mode’ was automatically disabled. The main screen flickered into life, and there was our PGM, introducing our Guest Speaker, Sir Ranulph. ‘Sir Ran’ was much more down-to-earth than I was expecting, if you’ll pardon the expression. My wife and I sat there spellbound as he regaled us with tales of bravery, courage and downright determination – foot rot and other ghastly consequences simply dismissed in his matter-of-fact delivery. Great stuff!



Sir Ranulph Fiennes delivering his fascinating talk

Soon it was time for “questions from the floor” – or, to be precise, questions submitted previously by members of the audience.

Oops! Our first and only technical hitch: poor old Mark Bassant who was supposed to be putting the questions could not hear the answers! Fortunately, Juliette Knowles from organising company ExVo was able to step in and normal service was quickly resumed.



How we watched it at home: laptop linked via HDMI to 55-inch television set

The labours of the evening being ended (Masonic jargon for time to pack up), Sir Ranulph bade us goodnight, leaving us a little time to have a final chat and say goodbye to our friends, pick up our electronic coats from the cloakroom (okay, I made that bit up) and log out.

Afterwards, Neil Johnstone said, "The talk by Sir Ranulph was simply stunning and it quickly became apparent that he has led a spectacular life with many amazing adventures that most people could only dream of. He has also raised millions for charity along the way. We are extremely grateful not only for his time but for his willing participation in Virtual Theatre".

I reckon the Province can be well satisfied with the result. Other Events are planned for this year and next, some of which will be using Virtual Theatre. And proceeds from these Events will go towards the Province's 2025 Festival, in which we are hoping to raise the magnificent sum of £3.5 million for charity, via our very own Masonic Charitable Foundation.





GOLFING NEWS

from Paul McGuirk



Wow: What an 18 months its been! Having been asked to look at running the East Kent Masonic Golf Society in November 2020, it seemed like a daunting task. The Association had seen great success and so I had big shoes to fill. The team around me were fantastic and supported my fairly new and fresh approach to the role.

Freemasonry means different things to each of us. One thing we have in common is the fellowship we enjoy from being in the company of likeminded people. For some it means mixing with different people, some history and for some charity. Within the EKMGA, we have tried blending all these elements into an association which is inclusive and welcoming to all members of the province of East Kent. We also recognise that the medium of sporting activity plays an important role in the recruitment of new and prospective members.

When the Covid pandemic hit in March 2020, it affected all Masonic activity. Fortunately, golf was one of the sports that was permitted shortly after the first lockdown was eased and that allowed us to schedule some events, albeit under tight restrictions. As we entered 2021, we have had a more stable and successful first half to the golfing season with six completed events. This even included both the Historic William Blay Team event at Faversham and an introduction and taster lesson to the East Kent Light Blue Brothers club at North Foreland in May.

Moving forward, we hope to continue including and welcoming all members from the Province regardless of golfing ability. Lastly, a huge thank-you to our Captain for 2021 Derek Reed, our Chairman Keith Hodgson, to Peter Marno, Peter McKay and everyone who has supported me in this role.



Where Fun, Friendship and Competition come together

Here are some dates for your diary:

THURS 19TH AUGUST

SENE VALLEY, FOLKESTONE

Geoffrey Gordon Dearing Bowl

Individual Stableford competition

THURSDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER

DALE HILL GOLF CLUB

EKMGA V PROVINCE OF ESSEX

FRIDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER

WEALD OF KENT GOLF CLUB

EKMGA V Province of Surrey

For the Sureken Silver Salver

FRIDAY 15TH OCTOBER

EKLBB V DARK BLUES

SHEERNESS GOLF CLUB

DAVID GRAEME TROPHY

EKLBB V DARK BLUES

For full details including how to book, please go to the webpage at

eastkentfreemasons.org/golf

CHELSEFIELD LAKES 22nd APRIL 2021

AND WE'RE OFF! SEASON LAUNCH.

The East Kent Masonic Golf Association (EKMGA) had its Season Launch on the 22nd April 2021 at Chelsfield Lakes Golf Centre.

Peter McKay (on the right) handed the captain's armband to new Captain Derek Reed who took the tee watched by a packed field of East Kent Masons and their guests.

The day was a great success. EKMGA thanked the venue for their help in making sure the day went well and that current national restrictions were observed.



RESULTS

Winner: Randy Flores 51 points

Runner Up: Leon Zachrow 45 points

Third place: Chris Pascall 45
Points (Countback)

Best Guest: Barry Watson 38 Points

Runner Up Guest: Brian Hale 37 Points



Winner Randy Flores with Derek Reed

Nearest The Pin and Longest Drives

2nd Hole: Tim Pierpoint

5th Hole: Mark Baul

11th Hole (in 2): Terry Hall

Long Drive (13th): Terry Hall

15th Hole: Bill Lottes

17th Hole: Tomas Urbanek



Runner-up Leon Zachrow with Derek Reed

TENTERDEN GOLF CLUB 14th MAY 2021

We were blessed with good weather for the second Event of the East Kent Masonic Golf Association's season which was held at Tenterden. Leon Zacharow & Chris Pascall joined Captain Derek Reed on the first tee having finished second and third at the last event.

The course was clearly playing tough as almost everyone was complaining of their score.



Sam Conroy (pictured, left) of Prince Edwins Lodge No.125 in Hythe was declared winner for the day with 34 points. Runner up with 32 points was Philip Playle of United Service Lodge No.3124 in Sheerness.

Charity Collection: Our Captain wielded the Fine Bucket around which raised over £140 and has been donated to the 1st Snodland Scout group. The Scouts are raising funds after they lost around £50,000 when the

builders they employed to build a new scout hut went into administration.

LYDD GOLF CLUB 24th JUNE 2021

On a hot and sunny day, thirty-eight players and guests attended for the day at Lydd Golf Club. Lydd is a tough test of golf with plenty of water hazards along the way and this showed in the variety of results coming in.

Winner for the day was Dave Kirby with a brilliant 39 points. Runner up was Keith Hodgson with 37 points. Third (on count-back) was Leon Zacharow also on 37 points.



Charity collection: As is traditional, players were invited to fine each other after finishing the round. The collection for this month totalled £94.86. The proceeds for all collections this year will be donated equally between the Cornwallis East Kent Freemasons' Charity and the Province's 2025 Festival.

EKMGA WIN THE RUSSELL RACE CLARET JUG

EKMGA were out in their first official inter provincial competition for the season when they hosted Met Grand Lodge Golf Society at Bearsted Golf Club on the 2nd July.

Sixteen of East Kent's hand selected and (ahem!) finest golfers played single matches on a stableford basis.

The weather was very hot when Captains Kevin Jones and Derek Reed (pictured) took to the tee to launch the event.

The result was an emphatic win for EKMGA who won ten of their sixteen matches and retained the Claret Jug.



The victorious East Kent Team

Individual Winner:	Derek Reed (EKMGA)	36 Points
Runner Up:	Mathew Beckwith (Met GL)	34 points
Third Place:	Michael Fox (Met GL)	31 points

LIGHT BLUES BROTHERS



East Kent Light Blues Brothers have two exciting sports events upcoming:



Registration: £30



Price Starts from: £55.00

 **Location: Buckmore Park Chatham**

 **16 October 2021 11:15 am - 4:00 pm**



A LITTLE AND OFTEN—IT ALL ADDS UP!

Our national charity the Masonic Charitable Foundation (MCF) continues to support the Province with grants and donations to worthy causes in East Kent. Here are three recent examples:

£55,000 to Kent Wildlife Trust

£30,000 to Ellenor Hospice

£2,500 to Kent Scouts towards their
“Shackleton” expedition



They cannot do this without contributions from all the Lodges and Chapters under the United Grand Lodge of England. A little and often is a great way to contribute. You can set up a regular payment, as little or as much as you like. During our 2025 Festival, if you donate £300 or commit to donating £300 through Regular Giving you qualify for a Festival Jewel; and by donating more you can become a Vice Patron, Patron or Grand Patron. Details are available on the Festival website.

In East Kent Province, we want to raise the whopping sum of £3.5 million for the Masonic Charitable Foundation (MCF) via our 2025 Festival. All the money we raise goes straight to the MCF for immediate distribution to charities and other worthy causes. No waiting until 2025. All contributions are welcome, no matter how large or small. If you are able to donate on a regular basis, that would be marvellous. Please visit our website at www.2025festival.co.uk and click on the **Donate** tab.

TOGETHER WE WILL CHANGE LIVES

2025 FESTIVAL EVENTS



East Kent Province and the Patriot Group have several exciting 2025 Festival Events coming up, and more are in the planning stage.



WIN A MERCEDES!

Competition now open. Entry fee £10. Answer a simple question and you'll be in the Draw for a brand-new Mercedes 'C' Class Saloon worth over £30,000! Closing Date for entries **Sunday 31st October**.

ONLINE CASINO NIGHT - Saturday 9th October

Entry fee £35 per household or individual player. The object of the evening is to be the player who amasses the most chips in the time allotted. Players can buy more chips during the game if they wish. All additional purchases will trigger a donation to the 2025 Festival from the hosts. The First Prize is a weekend in Paris for two. The Runner up will receive £100 in prize money. Open to Freemasons, their families and friends both in our Province and other Provinces.



THE EAST KENT 'CHASE' - Saturday 21st November 2021



To be held at the Clive Emerson Suite at Detling Exhibition Centre and Showground. The evening will include a three-course dinner with wine followed by a live version of the popular TV show. We're hoping to include stars from the show itself – and we'll be looking for competitors from East Kent Freemasons! Open to Freemasons, their families and friends together with members of the Public. Tickets £85 per person.

FORGET-ME-NOT CELEBRITY CHRISTMAS LUNCH - Sunday 12th December 2021

To be held at the Chelsea Harbour Hotel in London. Hosted by Brian Blessed with guest appearances by Bobby Davro, Joe Pasquale and Bradley Walsh. Many other celebrities will be in attendance. There will be a Champagne reception, Lunch, Cabaret, Raffle and Auction. Tickets £95 per person which includes a four-course meal with wine. Details later on how to book.



FORGET-ME-NOT LUNCH IN MEMORY OF GEORGE MICHAEL - Sunday 6th March 2022



To be held at the Chelsea Harbour Hotel in London. Hosted by Shane Richie from the BBC's EastEnders. A Forget-me-not Crystal Plaque will be presented to the George Michael Fan Club CEO after the lunch. There will be big screen clips of George Michael's life shown between. After lunch some celebrities who knew George will make short presentations, followed by a Raffle and an Auction of George Michael Memorabilia. Tickets are £95 per person inclusive of a champagne reception, and a four-course lunch with wine. Open to all.

THE EAST KENT FREEMASON SPECTACULAR - Sunday 14th August 2022

This will be an all-day event held at the Detling Exhibition and Showground. Tickets are £65 per person for the whole day starting at 10am and ending at 10:30pm. Entertainment will include performances by the Croydon Symphony Orchestra, The UK Glen Miller Band, Mud, Gerry & the Pacemakers, The Drifters, The Three Degrees, Simply Red and Madness. Open to all.



Also in the pipeline are:



**IT'S A KNOCKOUT
MURDER MYSTERY DINNER PARTY
ANNUAL EAST KENT GO-KARTING CHAMPIONSHIP
DAREDEVIL EXPERIENCE
FORGET-ME-NOT LUNCHESES (11th September and 11th December 2022)**

And the East Kent Pantomime is back! **'SINBAD THE SAILOR'** will be performed at the Gulbenkian Theatre in Canterbury in December 2022. Dates and details will be provided as soon as they are known.

All these exciting Events will be advertised on the Province's 2025 Festival website at www.2025festival.co.uk. And watch out for further publicity in *The Provincial* magazine and on our Facebook page.

LIGHT BLUES BROTHERS: OUR MISSION

The Light Blues group aims to bring new and young Masons from across the Province together to broaden their experience, connect with new friends and colleagues, and to enhance the value of being a Freemason. The group will host regular social events throughout the year and is fully supported by the Province of East Kent.



Membership of the East Kent Light Blues Brothers is open to any Mason from the Province of East Kent who has not yet attained Provincial or Grand rank, regardless of age or experience. Visit the website at eklbb.org.uk.



THE COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

The East Kent Province's Communications Team, headed by Richard Wingett, Assistant Provincial Grand Master, is here to help keep you informed about activities and events in the Province and to facilitate effective communication between Lodges, Chapters and the general public.

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Press and Media Manager	Phil Heath	comms@ekprovince.co.uk
Social Media Manager	Matt Jury	socialmedia@ekprovince.co.uk
Provincial and Editorial Manager	John Ray	editor@theprovincial.org
Provincial Education Officer*	Graham Chisnell	education@ekprovince.co.uk
Photographics Manager	Peter Floyd	pjfloyd4501@googlemail.com
Communications Officer for the HRA	Chris Sanford	thesanfords@screaming.net
Instagram	Mark Ravenwood	mravenwood1982@gmail.com

* Representative of the Education & Welfare Support Group

And finally, Brethren and Companions: a reminder that the members-only portal “Your Province” – a.k.a. YP2 – is the principal source of information for all Craft and Royal Arch Freemasons in East Kent. This secure website is full of interesting material that will support all Master Masons and Companions irrespective of experience or rank. To register, please visit the website at yourprovince.org/yp2