

Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Worcestershire

Provincial Grand Master, R W Bro Eric John Rymer



Documents for consideration at the Virtual Business meeting of the Province to be held on Saturday 12th June 2021 at 11:00 hrs.

- a) Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 12th September 2020
- b) Re-drafted Provincial By-laws 2021
- c) Report of the Provincial Grand Secretary
- d) Report of the Provincial Grand Registrar
- e) Report of the Provincial Grand Charity Steward
- f) Report of the Provincial Grand Treasurer

Minutes of the 136th Annual Meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Worcestershire held Virtually at a Zoom Meeting held on Saturday, the Twelfth day of September 2020

Active Provincial Grand Officers were in attendance as follows :-

V.W Bro J W Whiteley	Deputy Provincial Grand Master
W Bro P A Yarnell	Assistant Provincial Grand Master
W Bro J F P Mulligan	Provincial Grand Senior Warden
W Bro S J Cameron	Provincial Grand Junior Warden
W Bro T R Barnes	Provincial Grand Master Overseer
<i>W Bro M.J. Pickett</i>	<i>Provincial Grand Senior Overseer (Apology)</i>
W Bro M C Cummings	Provincial Grand Junior Overseer
W Bro Rev J T Parker	Provincial Grand Chaplain
W Bro S E Humberstone	Provincial Grand Treasurer
W Bro R Stanton	Provincial Grand Registrar
W Bro A C Hutt	Provincial Grand Secretary
<i>W Bro R J Green</i>	<i>Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies (Apology)</i>
W Bro Dr C M Gwynn	Provincial Grand Almoner
W Bro M J Gage	Provincial Grand Charity Steward
W Bro J W Pritchard	Provincial Grand Inspector of Works
W Bro G Vale	Provincial Grand Sword Bearer
<i>W Bro A W Moody</i>	<i>Provincial Deputy Grand Chaplain (Apology)</i>
W Bro S W S Southgate	Provincial Deputy Grand Secretary
W Bro D W Owen	Provincial Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies
<i>W Bro B R Chadd</i>	<i>Provincial Grand Senior Deacon (Apology)</i>
<i>W Bro M S Lodge</i>	<i>Provincial Grand Senior Deacon (Apology)</i>
W Bro W E Roberts	Provincial Grand Junior Deacon
W Bro P J Rowlands	Provincial Grand Junior Deacon
<i>W Bro J A Davies</i>	<i>Provincial Assistant Grand Chaplain (Apology)</i>
W Bro H Carlton	Provincial Assistant Grand Secretary
W Bro L W Brown	Provincial Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
Bro A Sinton	Provincial Grand Organist
<i>W Bro K H Green</i>	<i>Provincial Grand Standard Bearer (Apology)</i>
<i>W Bro M A King</i>	<i>Provincial Assistant Grand Standard Bearer (Apology)</i>
<i>W Bro J W Taitt</i>	<i>Provincial Grand Inner Guard (Apology)</i>
<i>W Bro P A Hill</i>	<i>Provincial Grand Steward (Apology)</i>
<i>W Bro J W Evans</i>	<i>Provincial Grand Steward (Apology)</i>
<i>W Bro P A Ratcliffe</i>	<i>Provincial Grand Steward (Apology)</i>
W Bro C M Hampson	Provincial Grand Steward
<i>W Bro S P Warner</i>	<i>Provincial Grand Tyler (Apology)</i>
W Bro D J Hughes	Provincial Information Officer
W Bro N J E Crabbe	Provincial IT Officer and Webmaster
<i>W Bro S Walker</i>	<i>Provincial Membership Officer (Apology)</i>
V.W.Bro. B P Scofield	Provincial Grand Officer Liaison Officer

In addition there were 53 other Members present and a further 22 apologies had been received.

Those attending entered the meeting at 10:55hrs.

The Provincial Grand Master, R.W. Bro Eric John Rymer, declared the meeting open at 11:00hrs.

He welcomed a number of distinguished guests, who were also members of the Province, including :-

R.W.Bro. Philip Wills, *Prov.G.M. (Warwks.)*

R.W.Bro. Frank Spencer. *P.Prov.G.M., G.D.C.*

The Provincial Grand Master called on the Provincial Grand Chaplain for the benefit of prayer and to remember those (13) Brethren who had been called to the Grand Lodge above since our last annual meeting.

The Provincial Grand Secretary read the Letter of Permission from Grand Lodge allowing the Province to hold a Virtual Business Meeting.

The Minutes of the 135th Annual Meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge held on Saturday 8th June 2019 were put to the Meeting duly proposed by the Provincial Grand Senior Warden, seconded by the Provincial Grand Junior Warden and approved by the Brethren. The Provincial Grand Master declared that he would sign them later.

The Provincial Grand Secretary confirmed that there was nothing to add to his report that had been circulated.

The Provincial Grand Registrar confirmed that there was nothing to add to his report that had been circulated.

The Provincial Grand Charity Steward confirmed that he had nothing to add to his previously circulated report.

The Provincial Grand Master invited any questions on the Report of the Provincial Grand Charity Steward after which it was adopted by the Meeting having been proposed by the Provincial Grand Senior Warden and seconded by the Provincial Grand Junior Warden.

The Provincial Grand Treasurer presented his accounts, which were adopted by the Meeting having been proposed by the Provincial Grand Senior Warden and seconded by the Provincial Grand Junior Warden.

The Provincial Grand Treasurer confirmed no increase (currently £3.75 per member per year) in the Provincial Annual dues for both Mark and Royal Ark Mariner members.

The Provincial Grand Master advised the Meeting that he had received only one nomination for the position of Provincial Grand Treasurer, he therefore declared W. Bro. S.E. Humberstone, duly re-elected.

The Provincial Grand Master thanked the auditors for their work over the years. He advised that W.Bro. Tony Taylor was stepping down and that W.Bro. Bill Timmins had volunteered his services. The Provincial Grand Senior Warden proposed that W Bro M J Broadhurst and W Bro W. Timmins be elected auditors for the ensuing year. The Provincial Grand Junior Warden seconded the proposal which was approved by the brethren.

The Provincial Grand Master affirmed the various appointments and promotions of his Provincial Grand Lodge Officers with effect from 6th June 2020 and also those appointed to the rank of Provincial Royal Ark Mariner Grand Rank with effect from 19th May 2020 all as per the Summons appended to these Minutes. He congratulated them all and thanked them for their support

The Provincial Grand Master, RW Bro Eric John Rymer, addressed the Meeting (copy attached).

The Provincial Grand Master, R.W. Bro Eric John Rymer, declared the meeting closed at 11:25hrs.

Signed: Provincial Grand Master.....

Signed: Provincial Grand Secretary..... Date.....

ATTENDEES

W.Bro.	Robert Barrett	W.Bro.	Joseph Marzouk
W.Bro.	Michael Bartels	W.Bro.	Paul Milner
W.Bro.	Roger Bennett	V.W.Bro.	Tim Morris
W.Bro.	John Bentley	W.Bro.	Jim Mulligan
V,W.Bro.	Eric Bourne	W.Bro.	Cristopher Nixon
Bro.	Allan Bretherton	W.Bro.	Derek Owen
Bro.	Chris Brown	W.Bro.	Justin Parker
W.Bro.	Leo Brown	W.Bro.	Graham Perkins
Bro.	Paul Buck	W.Bro.	Bob Phillips
W.Bro.	Peter Bullock	W.Bro.	John Pritchard
W.Bro.	Stuart Cameron	W.Bro.	William Ernest Roberts
W.Bro.	Dr Howard Carlton	W.Bro.	Paul Rowlands
Bro.	Dean Clarke	W.Bro.	Stuart Rothero
W.Bro.	Neil Crabbe	Bro.	Thomas Rumble
W.Bro.	Martin Creighan	Bro.	David Rushforth
W.Bro.	Mervyn Cummings	R.W.Bro.	Eric Rymer
W.Bro.	Peter Dowding	V.W.Bro.	Mike Saxon
W.Bro.	Simon Finn	V.W.Bro.	Brian Scoffield
W.Bro.	Mike Gage	Bro.	Anthony Sheppard
V.W.Bro.	Ron Gee	W.Bro.	Bill Sherlock
W.Bro.	Martin Grahame-Dunn	W.Bro.	George Simpson
W.Bro.	Clive Hampson	Bro.	Alex Sinton
W.Bro.	Bernard Hardy	W.Bro.	Graham Smith
Bro.	Brian Harper	W.Bro.	Bill Southgate
W.Bro.	Dave Hedley	R.W.Bro.	Frank Spencer
V.W.Bro.	Trevor Hicks	W.Bro.	Ivor Spencer
W.Bro.	James Holtom	W.Bro.	Rob Stanton
V.W.Bro.	Gareth Hughes	Bro.	Jonathan Swift
W.Bro.	David Hughes	W.Bro.	Gary Vale
W.Bro.	Simon Humberstone	W.Bro.	Robert Vaughan
W.Bro.	Adrian Hutt	V.W.Bro.	Jeff Whiteley
V.W.Bro.	Ron Kindon	R.W.Bro.	Phil Wills
V.W.Bro.	John King	W.Bro.	Reg Willsher
W.Bro.	Eric Lee	W.Bro.	Stephen Wyr
V.W.Bro.	Raymond Lewry	W.Bro.	Paul Yarnell
V.W.Bro.	Philip Marshall		

Registered to Attend – presumed apology

W.Bro.	Douglas Allen	Bro.	Alistair Page
Bro.	Alan Breward	W.Bro.	Kerry Parkes
W.Bro.	Joseph McCollum	Bro.	Richard Webb

APOLOGIES

W Bro	John Bassford	W.Bro.	Bernard Mitchell
W.Bro.	Ian Belsham	W.Bro.	Stanley Parnell
V.W.Bro.	Geoffrey Bollard	W.Bro.	Mike Pickett
W.Bro.	Melvyn Broadhurst	W.Bro.	Michael Raylor
W.Bro.	Mervyn Cummings	Bro.	Peter Ross
W.Bro.	Roderick Davy	W.Bro.	Alun Thomas
W.Bro.	Robert Grainger	W.Bro.	Anthony Watt
W.Bro.	Richard Green	V.W.Bro.	Geoffrey Whale
V.W.Bro.	Clifford Hannabuss	R.W.Bro.	Prof. Denovan Wilson
W.Bro.	Keith Hartley	W.Bro.	Mark Winfield
W.Bro.	Christopher Hopes	W.Bro.	Paul Wong
Bro.	Clive Howe	V W Bro	David Wright
W.Bro.	Steve Mingo		

OBITUARY

R.W.Bro. Philip James Patrick	Provincial DCs Lodge MMM	1813
V.W.Bro. Michael Lawrence Homer	Vernon Lodge MMM	923
V.W.Bro. Alun Rosser Thomas	Provincial DCs Lodge MMM	1813
W.Bro. Noel Orville Arrindell Alleyne	Provincial DCs Lodge MMM	1813
W.Bro. David Balmer	Provincial DCs Lodge MMM	1813
W.Bro. Ronald Albert Brookes	St Egwin Lodge MMM	1135
W.Bro. Alan Clift	All Saints Kings Heath Lodge MMM	1462
W.Bro. Michael Howard Richard Cole	St. Laurence Lodge MMM	893
W.Bro. Geoffrey Brian Moore	Athlumney Lodge MMM	590
W.Bro. Brian Joseph Nutt	Millennium Lodge MMM	1822
W.Bro. David Andrew Stean	St Egwin Lodge MMM	1135
W.Bro. Samuel Jonathan Williams	Moseley Lodge MMM	667
Bro. John Edward Gayton	Teme Valley Lodge MMM	1260

By-Laws of the Provincial Grand Lodge of
Mark Master Masons of Worcestershire
(including the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariner)

*Any matters not specially dealt with in these By-Laws shall be governed by the
Constitutions and Regulations of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons
of England and Wales and its Districts and Lodge Overseas*

1. Date and Place of Meetings

The Annual Meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge shall be held at such place within the Province, and on such date and at such time, as may be determined by the Provincial Grand Master. At this meeting the election of the Provincial Grand Treasurer and the appointment of other Provincial Grand Officers shall take place and other necessary business be transacted.

There shall likewise be called an Annual Provincial Grand Assembly of the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariner at which the business to be transacted shall include conferment of the rank of Prov.R.A.M.G.R. on those duly appointed.

Emergency meetings of Provincial Grand Lodge may be called by the Provincial Grand Master or in his absence by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, or in his absence by the Assistant Provincial Grand Master at such place and time as they shall direct.

Notice of every meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge and the Provincial Grand Assembly shall be issued to Members of the Province at least twenty-one days before the date of such meetings; stating the dates, times, and places of such meetings, a summary of the business to be transacted and propositions to be determined.

The Master of the Lodge under whose banner the Provincial Grand Lodge may meet is required to provide Stewards to assist the Provincial Grand Secretary in making arrangements necessary for such meeting

2. Fees and Dues

(i) A fee of honour shall be paid by every Brother upon first appointment to, or promotion in Provincial Grand Rank or appointment to ProvRAMGR. Such fees should be decided by resolution from time to time, but not to exceed 40% of those similarly levied by Grand Lodge. Such fees shall be paid on accepting the appointment but the rank or clothing of the Office shall not be assumed until the meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge at which he is to be invested and until such fee has been paid.

(ii) For every Newly Advanced or Elevated Brother and Joining or Re-joining member each Lodge within the Province shall pay to the fund for general purposes such relevant fees as should be decided by resolution from time to time, but not to exceed 40% of those similarly levied by Grand Lodge.

(iii) Each Lodge within the Province shall pay Annual Dues for every Brother who has been a Subscribing Member during any part of a year, such an amount as shall have been determined by resolution in accordance with these By-Laws at a meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge.

3. Dispensation

Dispensation application forms should be downloaded from Keystone Online and when completed, submitted to the Provincial Grand Master, through the Provincial Grand Secretary together with a statement clearly indicating the object and reason for such. The application should be accompanied either by the fee payable or the receipt for an internet banking payment.

4. **Duties of Provincial Grand Officers**

(i) The Provincial Grand Treasurer and the Provincial Grand Secretary, in the exercise of their respective offices, shall be governed by the regulations applicable to the similar offices in Grand Lodge.

(ii) The Provincial Grand Treasurer shall be nominated for election to that office by two members of Provincial Grand Lodge in writing to the Provincial Grand Secretary at least 30 days before the Annual Meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge. Should there be two or more nominations the election shall be by Ballot. In the absence of a nomination the Presiding Officer may nominate.

All monies received by the Provincial Grand Treasurer shall be deposited as specified in the Constitutions and Regulations of the Order. Cheques drawn on these accounts or withdrawals from other investments, shall be authorised, and signed by TWO of the following Provincial Grand Officers: the Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, the Assistant Provincial Grand Master, the Provincial Grand Treasurer, the Provincial Grand Secretary.

No overdraft facilities shall be requested, and any casual overdraft rectified immediately and reported in writing to the Provincial Grand Master, or his Deputy.

(iii) The Provincial Grand Inner Guard shall be responsible for seeing that every Brother, before entering Provincial Grand Lodge or the Provincial Grand Assembly has signed the attendance register, giving his rank, the name and number of the Lodge to which he belongs and that he is properly clothed. He may be assisted in these duties by the Provincial Grand Tyler

5. **Statement of Accounts**

(i) Provincial Grand Lodge Funds

The Provincial Grand Treasurer shall prepare a Statement of Accounts for all Provincial Grand Lodge Funds as at 31st March each year. These accounts shall be examined by TWO members of Provincial Grand Lodge, nominated and elected at the previous Annual Meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge, and these accounts shall subsequently be submitted to the next Annual Meeting for approval.

(ii) Lodges

The Secretary of each Mark Lodge and Scribe of each RAM Lodge within the Province shall forward to the Provincial Grand Secretary TWO copies by post, or ONE copy by email, of the Lodge Statement of Accounts (for information only), immediately after they have been approved and adopted by the Lodge members.

6. **Regalia**

The regalia proper to his rank shall be provided by each Officer on appointment.

In the case of active Mark Provincial Grand Officers, the Jewel will be supplied by Provincial Grand Lodge and signed for in the book held for that purpose by the Provincial Grand Secretary. The Jewel will remain the property of Provincial Grand Lodge and in the event of loss the Officer whose signature appears in the book will bear the cost of replacement.

7. **Furniture and Property**

The Books, Papers, Furniture, Jewels and other property belonging to Provincial Grand Lodge shall be vested in the Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the Assistant Provincial Grand Master for the time being in trust for Provincial Grand Lodge; and shall be in the care of the Provincial Grand Secretary, who will maintain an inventory of it and will be responsible for its adequate insurance.

8. **Committee of General Purposes**

The following shall form the Committee of General Purposes to deal with all matters affecting the Order within the Province :-

- The Provincial Grand Master and Past Provincial Grand Masters
- The Deputy Provincial Grand Master and Past Deputy Provincial Grand Masters
- The Assistant Provincial Grand Master and Past Assistant Provincial Grand Masters
- The Provincial Grand Wardens
- The Provincial Grand Treasurer, the Provincial Grand Registrar, the Provincial Grand Secretary, the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, the Provincial Grand Almoner and the Provincial Grand Charity Steward
- The Deputy and Assistant Provincial Grand Secretaries
- The Worshipful Master or Commander, Treasurer, Secretary or Scribe, Almoner, Charity Steward and Past Masters of each Lodge in the Province

The Committee shall meet at least once in each year at such time and place as the Provincial Grand Master shall appoint and three members shall form a quorum.

They shall also arrange for the annual examination of the Provincial Grand Lodge accounts.

No extraordinary expense above £100 shall be paid by the Provincial Grand Treasurer unless by order of this Committee or special authority of the Provincial Grand Master.

9. **Fund of Benevolence**

The Fund of Benevolence shall be supported by Annual Donations from the General Funds of Provincial Grand Lodge, supplemented by voluntary contributions from Private Lodges and Individual Brethren. (Charity Constitution By-Laws refer)

10. **Returns from Lodges**

All returns should be made through Keystone Online where possible and through the Provincial Grand Secretary otherwise or as specifically provided for below, by whom they will be forwarded to Grand Lodge. All forms necessary are downloadable from Keystone Online or available from the Provincial Grand Secretary otherwise.

(i) **Annual Returns**

The Master and Secretary of each Mark Lodge and the Scribe and Commander of every RAM Lodge shall make at 31st August in each year a return of the members thereof by certifying and submitting the Keystone Online Annual Return Invoice to confirm that the Keystone Online Annual Return of Members record is up to date and accurate.

At the same time the Lodge Treasurer shall submit to the Provincial Grand Secretary either the fee due to Grand Lodge or the receipt for an internet banking payment.

(ii) **Installation Returns**

Immediately after every Installation Meeting the Lodge Secretary or Scribe shall complete the Keystone Online Installation Return.

At the same time the Lodge Treasurer shall submit to the Provincial Grand Secretary either the fee payable to Provincial Grand Lodge for Annual Dues or the receipt for an internet banking payment.

(iii) **Newly Advanced and Elevated Brothers, Joining and Re-joining Members**

Returns as to Advancement, Elevation and Joining of members shall be made to the Provincial Grand Secretary upon the proper forms, at the times stated thereon and accompanied by the fee payable or the receipt for an internet banking payment.

At the same time the Lodge Secretary or Scribe shall enter the details of the new Member onto Keystone Online.

11. **Lodge Summonses**

The Secretary or Scribe of each Mark or RAM Lodge shall send an Email copy of each Lodge Summons to the Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, the Assistant Provincial Grand Master and to the Provincial Grand Secretary, at least fourteen days before the meeting.

12. **Correspondence**

All communications from Masters and Commanders of Mark and RAM Lodges or others, intended for submission to the Provincial Grand Master, or Provincial Grand Lodge, shall be submitted through the Provincial Grand Secretary.

13. **Alteration of By-Laws**

These By-Laws shall be binding on all Mark and RAM Lodges in the Province, unless the same be altered at any subsequent Provincial Grand Lodge meeting, due notice of any such intended alteration being given in the Summons convening the meeting at which such an alteration may be intended to be brought for consideration.

Any matters not specially dealt with in the foregoing regulations shall be governed by the Constitutions and Regulations of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and its Districts and Lodge Overseas

14. **Distribution of By-Laws**

A copy of these By-Laws shall be presented by each Mark and RAM Lodge to each Master and Commander on his Installation, and in a Mark Lodge to every Overseer on his first appointment. A copy shall be in the possession of the Treasurer and Secretary or Scribe of each Lodge.

Signed:

_____ Date _____
Provincial Grand Secretary

Recommended and Approved by:

_____ Date _____
Provincial Grand Master

Space for Approval by
The General Board of the G.L.M.M.M.
75mm x 25mm

Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Worcestershire

Annual Report of the Provincial Grand Secretary : 12th June 2021

During the current unprecedented period of no physical meetings I have issued on behalf of the Provincial Grand Master more than 80 authorisations to hold Virtual Business Meetings (VBM)s for Worcestershire Mark and Royal Ark Mariner Lodges. Membership attendance has been high at better than 50% average boosted by extensive support from visitors. The Provincial Grand Master is very hopeful that physical meetings can recommence from 1st September 2021, with the emphasis on 'can' rather than 'must'. He particularly stresses Grand Lodge advice regarding members' freedom of choice in respect of personal circumstances.

Regrettably 18 Lodges cannot now convene a 2020-21 masonic year Installation whilst the remaining 23 have 'rolled-over' Installations to accommodate within the 2021-22 masonic year. Adding these to the 41 scheduled Installations for 2021-22 presents significant challenges but the Provincial Grand Master has confirmed that each Installation Meeting will have a full Provincial Team as usual.

It has been necessary to postpone a number of Celebratory Meetings during this time and substitute arrangements are in hand for these too. Social events are now once again being planned and I am very pleased to report success in the Annual Golf Match against Warwickshire with our 4-2 victory.

This year our Annual Provincial Meeting is virtual once again and with more than 200 registered to attend every effort has been made to ensure that the proceedings are as closely reminiscent of a physical meeting as possible. Because of the hiatus in physical meetings the Provincial Grand Master has decided to follow the lead of Grand Lodge by re-appointing his active Officers for a further year in post. Accordingly all new appointments and promotions for this year (only) are to past rank.

Once again Worcestershire is proud to acknowledge and congratulate those afforded Grand Lodge honours this year, with an enviable list of 3 Brethren re-appointed to active Grand Rank, 4 Brethren receiving Past Grand Rank first appointments or promotion and 20 Brethren from other Provinces but who are also Members of our Lodges likewise recognised. In addition the Province is very pleased to acknowledge those who attained Royal Ark Mariner Grand Rank in December 2020, although regrettably again without Ceremony since the Grand Assembly was also cancelled.

The Province now holds a Zoom subscription and this virtual meeting platform is available for use by Lodges both for formal VBMs as well as other purposes such as :-

- The annual meeting of the General Purposes Committee which was held virtually on 30th January 2021 with attendance levels probably twice that usually present at a physical meeting.
- Well attended presentations by the Worcestershire Mark Demonstration Team of the PowerPoint floorwork animations for the Ceremonies of Advancement and Elevation developed by the Grand Master's Lodge of Instruction as a direct result of the enforced shutdown. All Worcestershire Lodges now have copies of the software and script packages to use in their own Lodge preparations for Ceremonies.

Although forced on us by circumstances the benefit of such virtual meetings has been clearly demonstrated and it is anticipated that this facility will be ongoing.

Keystone OnLine continues to deliver improved benefits, including now a useful Document facility with a read only version of the Constitutions/Regulations together with downloadable Forms and Best Practice guides for Lodge use and various administrative schedules for Provincial use.

With only 9 Members of our Province not using Email, Mailchimp is proving beneficial for circulating information to Members alongside the established routine through Lodge Secretaries and Scribes. The bi-weekly newsletter from the Deputy Provincial Grand Master has proved very popular and plans are in hand to publish these in a collated format both on the website and in print.

My thanks to Lodge Secretaries and Scribes for their dedication and voluntary support in keeping our Mark and Royal Ark Masonry Lodges active over the past 12 months. Their work is vital to the good health of the Province and VBMs have proved most valuable in maintaining contact within our community. I am delighted to report that Worcestershire is punching well above its weight in that respect when considered across all of the Orders and Lodges administered from Mark Masons Hall.

I conclude by thanking my Team for their unstinting assistance over the last year. The unusual circumstances of the past 12 months in supporting the work of the Province have created their own set of new initiatives to follow and implement. With these circumstances now in retreat we will be able to resume the previously announced programme of development. As always the Secretariat is very willing to offer help and advice to Lodges or individuals if so requested and we strongly urge you all to use your direct link with us through our Lodge Liaison support channel.

W.Bro. Adrian Carl Hutt, P.G.S.D., *Provincial Grand Secretary*

Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Worcestershire

Annual Report of the Provincial Grand Registrar : 12th June 2021

This section of the report refers to figures during the 12 month period to 31st August 2020

MARK MASTER MASONS

Members Gained

9	Advancements	
7	Joining Members new to the Province	<u>Total Members Gained : 16</u>

30	New Joining/Re-joining Memberships from existing Members of the Province	<u>Total Memberships Gained : 46</u>
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Members Lost

23	Resignations	
9	Deaths	<u>Total Members Lost : 32</u>

3	Additional Memberships lost from the above loss of Members	<u>Total Memberships Lost : 35</u>
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TOTAL LOSS IN MARK MEMBERS 16

TOTAL GAIN IN MARK MEMBERSHIPS 11

ROYAL ARK MARINERS

Members Gained

8	Elevations	
8	Joining Members new to the Province	<u>Total Members Gained : 16</u>

0	New Joining/Re-joining Memberships from existing Members of the Province	<u>Total Memberships Gained : 16</u>
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Members Lost

7	Resignations	
6	Deaths	<u>Total Members Lost : 13</u>

0	Additional Memberships lost from the above loss of Members	<u>Total Memberships Lost : 13</u>
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TOTAL GAIN IN RAM MEMBERS 3

TOTAL GAIN IN RAM MEMBERSHIPS 3

*This section of the report refers to current figures **as at 31st May 2021***

INDIVIDUAL LODGE MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS ()

2021	2020	MARK	Lodge Number	RAM	2020	2021
28	28	Lechmere	59	Ark	29	28
16	18	Godson	330	Abraham Green	12	10
19	20	Athlumney	590	Athlumney	22	21
14	15	Moseley	667	Moseley	15	14
19	19	Perseverance	733	Perseverance	15	15
13	15	Stechford	747	Stechford	14	12
28	30	St Laurence	893	St Laurence	25	24
22	25	Vernon	923	Vernon	19	18
15	15	Eaton	977	Eaton	9	9
21	24	St Egwin	1135	St Egwin	20	18
8	10	Mosaic	1136			
23	24	Teme Valley	1260	Teme Valley	21	19
15	15	Bromsgrove	1334	Bromsgrove	13	13
29	30	The Malvern Priory	1351	The Malvern Priory	20	20
69	71	WIML	1409	WICL	54	57
16	17	All Saints KH	1462	All Saints KH	16	16
20	23	Centenary	1623	Centenary	19	16
94	98	Prov DCs	1813			
15	17	Millennium	1822	Millennium	14	13
18	20	Quill & Key	1901			
24	25	St George's	1920			
37	36	The Fairways	1938			
57	57	Alms & Ch Stwds	1943			
27	28	Vea Secunda	1980			
Total 647		24 MARK Lodges		Total 337		Total 323
				17 RAM Lodges		

TOTAL LOSS IN MARK MEMBERHIPS	33
TOTAL CURRENT MARK MEMBERHIPS	647
TOTAL CURRENT MARK MEMBERS	499

TOTAL LOSS IN RAM MEMBERHIPS	14
TOTAL CURRENT RAM MEMBERHIPS	323
TOTAL CURRENT RAM MEMBERS	245

W.Bro. Robin Stanton, Provincial Grand Registrar

Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Worcestershire
Annual Report of the Provincial Grand Charity Steward : 12th June 2021

The last 12 months has been difficult time for us all, and hopefully we can see the light at the end of the tunnel when we will be able to hold our meetings in person. Notwithstanding the lack of Alms' collections, within our Lodges the Province has made the following donations from the **National Bonus Ball** proceeds in the Charity Stewards Account:-

- | | |
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| • Birmingham Ladies Hospital – Little Feet Memorial Garden | £ 500 |
| • Royal British Legion – Poppy Appeal | £1,000 |
| • St. Mary’s Church, Oldswinford | £ 250 |

and from the **Provincial Mark Benevolent Fund** and **Lodges**

- | | |
|--|--------|
| • East Lancashire Mark Benevolent Festival | £1,000 |
| • Worcestershire Association of Carers | £1,232 |
| • Worcestershire Youth Carers | £ 650 |
| • Food Banks – Selected by the Lodges | £5,000 |

Total Donations : £9,632

The following Foodbanks were nominated for selection and received £500 each :-

Sponsoring Lodge	On behalf of Lodges meeting at	Establishment supported
Lechmere - No:59	Worcester	Worcester Food Bank
Athlumney - No:590	Stourbridge	Black Country Food, Brierley Hill
Moseley - No:667	King's Heath	Spark Hill Foodbank, Tyseley
Perseverance - No:733	Halesowen	Black Country Food, Brierley Hill
St. Laurence - No:893	Redditch	Redditch Food Bank
Vernon - No:923	Stourport and Kidderminster	Kidderminster Food Bank
St. Egwin – No:1135	Evesham	Pershore Food Bank
Teme Valley – No:1260	Tenbury	St. Mary's Church Food Bank, Tenbury Wells
The Malvern Priory – No:1351	Malvern	Malvern Hills Foodbank
Millennium – No:1822	Northfield	Northfield Community Partnership

The National Lottery Bonus Ball continues to contribute towards Good Causes, and is available to all members, their families and friends. For anyone wishing to join, the stake is £3, £4 or £5 per month and the Bonus Ball selected on the last Saturday of each month pays 10 times your stake. Please contact me for further details.

In April 2021 the Province became a member of Amazon Smile who will donate 0.5% on purchases made through them after deducting relevant tax and delivery. Membership is free and you will only need to register with our code with the first payment. Our code for signing-in is **“The Province of Worcestershire Benevolent Fund No 503776”**. Please contact me for further details.

At the time of writing this report the Mark Benevolent Fund had asked each Mark Lodge in England and Wales to nominate a local Hospice for a £1,000 donation in recognition of the life-time service and dedication to the Crown of His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. A Capital Grant of £1.2 million has been made available. Closing Date 31st May '21.

May I take this opportunity to thank the Provincial Grand Master, R. W. Bro. Eric John Rymer for the opportunity to serve the Province and the Executive Officers and Brethren for their support during my time in office as your Provincial Grand Charity Steward.

I thank, congratulate and wish my successor, W. Bro. Mark Winfield, *G.Stwd.*, every success on my retirement.

W. Bro. Michael John Gage, P.A.G.D.C., Provincial Grand Charity Steward

Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Worcestershire

Annual Report of the Provincial Grand Treasurer : 12th June 2021

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Worcestershire Benevolent Fund 2020/21

Notes

1 Donations received

Donations to the Worcestershire Mark Benevolent Fund were received from various Mark and RAM Lodges during the financial year to 31 March 2021. These totalled £1,456 of which £756 were designated to specific charities.

2 Donations paid

A number of donations from the Worcestershire Mark Benevolent Fund and Provincial Charity Stewards account were made during the financial year. These totalled £7,506 as follows:

Food Banks across Worcestershire	£5,000
Royal British Legion	£1,000
Worcestershire Association of Carers	£ 756
Birmingham Ladies Hospital	£ 500
Church Donations	£ 250

3 Mark Festival Donations 2021

A donation of £1,000 was made to the East Lancashire Mark Festival 2021. A further contribution of £300 was made to the East Lancashire Festival through the purchase of Festival Jewels.

4 Fundraising

Fundraising includes income and expenditure from the operation of the Bonus Ball Lottery. Prepaid receipts for the bonus ball totalling £508 for 2020/21 are included within creditors.

5 Stock

No stock was sold during the year. RAM ties to the value of £1,398 were purchased at the start of the financial year. The closing stock figure of £2,442 is based on 3 items of stock that were confirmed as being held on behalf of the province. All other items of stock held have a written down value of zero.

6 Cash at Bank

The balance of funds in the accounts at the year-end totalled £33,677 as follows:

Lloyds Worcestershire Mark Festival account	£ 17,374
Lloyds Benevolent Fund account	£ 11,698
Lloyds Grand Stewards account	£ 4,605

These abbreviated accounts are in accordance with the full accounts that have been reviewed and approved by the Independent Examiners, W Timmins and MJ Broadhurst.

W.Bro. Simon Everard Humberstone, P.A.G.D.C., Provincial Grand Treasurer

**PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE
OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF WORCESTERSHIRE**

Income and Expenditure Account

Year Ended 31 March 2021

<u>2020</u>			<u>2021</u>		
£	£	<u>Income</u>	£	£	
750		Fees of honour	905		
3,862		Lodge dues	1,535		
832		Year book receipts	0		
505		Other Income	61		
	5,949			2,501	
		<u>Expenditure</u>			
		Annual Provincial Meeting:			
4,374		Catering	0		
194		Printing	0		
285		Rent	0		
377		Other Expenses	0		
5,230			0		
3,525		Less: receipts	0		
	1,705				0
0		Printing & postage	0		
873		Year book costs	0		
413		Insurance	517		
0		Regalia costs	0		
897		Other Expenses	5		
	2,183			522	
	3,888			522	
	2,061	Surplus for the year		1,979	

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2021

<u>2020</u>			<u>2021</u>		
£	£	<u>Assets</u>	£	£	
1,278		Sundry debtors - Lodge dues	0		
168		Sundry debtors - year books	0		
1,423		Sundry debtors - other	1,423		
16,711		Balance at bank	19,861		
	19,580			21,284	
		<u>Liabilities</u>			
905		Fees received in advance	800		
0		Lodge dues in advance	0		
200		Sundry creditors	30		
	1,105			830	
	18,475			20,454	

Represented by

		<u>General Fund</u>			
16,414		Balance at 1st April 2019	18,475		
2,061		Surplus for the year	1,979		
	18,359			20,454	
	18,475			20,454	

W.Bro. S E Humberstone PAGDC, Provincial Grand Treasurer
06 June 2021

We have examined the Income and Expenditure Accounts and the Balance Sheet with the records, and have verified the balances held and find them to be correct.

W. Bro W. Timmins P.Prov.G.J.W)

Independent Examiners

W.Bro. M. J. Broadhurst PAGDC)

**PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE
OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF WORCESTERSHIRE
BENEVOLENT FUND
Registered Number 503776**

Income and Expenditure Account

Year Ended 31 March 2021

<u>2019</u>			<u>Income</u>	<u>2020</u>		
Unrestricted	Restricted	Total		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
£	£	£		£	£	£
4,485	1,816	6,301	Donations (note 1)	700	756	1,456
1,859	0	1,859	Gift Aid	445	0	445
1,000		1,000	Charity Box at Provincial Meeting	0		0
0		0	Bank interest	0		0
3,309		3,309	Fundraising Income (Bonus Ball)	3,684		3,684
1,015		1,015	Sale of goods	0		0
<u>11,668</u>	<u>1,816</u>	<u>13,484</u>		<u>4,829</u>	<u>756</u>	<u>5,585</u>
			<u>Expenditure</u>			
3,160	1,816	4,976	Donations (note 2)	6,750	756	7,506
2,000		2,000	Donations to Festivals (note 3)	1,300		1,300
730		730	Fundraising costs (Bonus Ball)	610		610
394		394	Cost of goods sold	0		0
341		341	Expenses and Stationary	115		115
<u>6,625</u>	<u>1,816</u>	<u>8,441</u>		<u>8,775</u>	<u>756</u>	<u>9,531</u>
<u>5,043</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,043</u>	Surplus	<u>(3,946)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(3,946)</u>

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2021

<u>2019</u>		<u>Assets</u>	<u>2020</u>	
£	£		£	£
	1,044	Stock		2,442
	2,034	Debtors		395
	<u>37,977</u>	Cash at Bank		<u>33,677</u>
	41,055			36,514
	<u>1,737</u>	Less Creditors		<u>1,142</u>
	<u>39,318</u>			<u>35,372</u>
		<u>Represented by</u>		
		<u>Reserves</u>		
34,275		Balance brought forward as at 1 April 2019	39,318	
<u>5,043</u>		Surplus	<u>(3,946)</u>	
	<u>39,318</u>			<u>35,372</u>

W.Bro. S E Humberstone, PAGDC, Provincial Grand Treasurer
06 June 2020

We have examined the Income and Expenditure Accounts and the Balance Sheet with the the records, and have verified the balances held and find them to be correct.

W. Bro W. Timmins P.Prov.G.J.W)

Independent Examiners

W.Bro. M. J. Broadhurst PAGDC)