

The Royal Arch

In East Lancashire



Most Excellent Grand Superintendent:
EComp Robert Frankl



Deputy Grand Superintendent:
EComp Harvey Basger



2nd Provincial Grand Principal:
EComp Paul Bowen

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3rd Provincial Grand Principal:
Ecomp Colin Whitaker



Companions,

I am writing this message some days in advance of our Provincial Grand Chapter Meeting on 29th March, in the knowledge that you are reading it after that date. I will (hopefully!) have been Installed as Grand Superintendent, and will have had the great pleasure of appointing, reappointing and promoting Companions of our Province. I congratulate all those Companions, and wish you enjoyment, satisfaction and success in your new, or continuing ranks, roles and responsibilities. I hope all Companions that were able to attend the Meeting had a truly enjoyable day.

Following my appointment, I took great pleasure in appointing EComp Harvey Basger as Deputy Grand Superintendent, EComp Paul Bowen as Second Provincial Grand Principal, and EComp Steven Boyle as Assistant to the Provincial Grand Principals, as well as reappointing the Third Provincial Grand Principal and four Assistants to the Provincial Grand Principals. It is reassuring for me to have such a committed and skillful team to support and assist me in my new role.

In my address at Provincial Grand Chapter, I expressed the importance that Companions encourage those Craft Brethren, who have yet to do so, to consider joining our Order when the time is right.

We also need to ensure that when we successfully bring new members into our Chapters, that they are made to feel welcome, valued and above all – well – our Companions. Even though I have been a Royal Arch Freemason for over thirty years, I well remember those early days when attending Royal Arch meetings, that the new settings, ritual and faces took me out of my comfort zone for some time until I settled in.

When writing about our responsibilities, it's easy to lose sight of the imperative that, above all else, we enjoy and appreciate our Order and our membership of it. If we do, we will have no difficulty in attracting new members, and ensuring our Chapters continue to prosper.

Companions, I am greatly honoured to have been appointed Grand Superintendent in and over this wonderful Province of East Lancashire. I look forward to sharing many happy occasions with you in the months and years ahead.

Robert I Frankl

Most Excellent Grand Superintendent





Companions,

Membership in the Holy Royal Arch extends, compliments and completes, that which we learn in our Craft freemasonry; it provides beautiful meetings that are both visually and ceremonially stunning; it enables us to extend our Masonic knowledge and friendships beyond our Lodges, and provides additional avenues and opportunities of roles and progression.

I expect you are thinking - ' we know all that - why is he telling us?'.

Actually Companions, I am not telling you. What I am doing is rehearsing what I want all of us to say, in our own words, to those Brethren in our Craft Lodges who have not yet decided to join our Order, and to encourage them to consider doing so, when the time is right for them.

Let's not just leave it to the Royal Arch Representative and the Royal Arch District Officers. Let's all take advantage of the many opportunities we have in our conversations with our Brethren, and seek to expand our membership, as well as ensure we continue to enjoy meaningful and dynamic meetings in our Chapters.

As you can imagine, this is a very special day for me, but it is also an important day for those Companions whom I will shortly be appointing, reappointing, or promoting . I wish you all well in your new ranks, roles and responsibilities.

Can I urge you to seriously consider joining the East Lancashire Provincial Grand Officers Chapter No 3747, which provides a forum to meet with the Provincial Rulers to enjoy each others company and to exchange ideas with each other.

I would like to express all out thanks to my predecessor, Sir David Trippier , for his 10 years distinguished service as Most Excellent Grand Superintendent.

I am very grateful to you, Most Excellent Past 3rd Grand Principal, for officiating at my Investiture, so well assisted by colleagues from Supreme Grand Chapter, and Distinguished Companions.

I am also grateful to the DC's team and the many other Companions as well as the Provincial Secretariat, who have worked so hard to ensure the success of today's Meeting.

Companions, I thank you for your attendance and support today. I'm grateful that you so readily accepted a short postponement of our Provincial Grand Chapter Meeting to accommodate my Investiture - not that you were given much choice, to be honest!

It is a great honour to have been appointed your Grand Superintendent. I look forward to meeting, working and celebrating with you in the years ahead, and, together, ensuring the continuing prosperity of the Royal Arch in our wonderful Province of East Lancashire.

Thank you.



An Update on the Royal Arch Officers



In every newsletter we publish pictures of the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent, Deputy Grand Superintendent and the Second and Third Provincial Grand Principals. At least once a year we also print a list of acting officers.

Other Companions have significant responsibility for the Royal Arch across the Province but do not appear in the Newsletters other than as contributors of articles. These are the 5 Assistants to the Provincial Grand Principals and 14 Royal Arch District Officers.

What better time could there be than the installation of a new Most Excellent Grand Superintendent, and following the March meeting of Provincial Grand Chapter, to acquaint all the Companions with the changes that have occurred in Provincial Grand Chapter over the last 2 years, culminating in the splendour and ceremony of the last couple of days. Here is a full list of all the Companions who are there to help you and your Chapters across the Province. Please use them to address any questions you might have or issues you would like to raise, starting, of course, in your local District/Area.

Most Excellent Grand Superintendent:

EComp Robert Frankl

Deputy Grand Superintendent:

EComp Harvey Basger

Second Provincial Grand Principal:

EComp Paul Bowen

Third Provincial Grand Principal:

EComp Colin Whitaker

Assistants to the Provincial Grand Principals:

Eastern Area:

EComp Steve Boyle

Manchester and Salford:

EComp Prof Tony Freemont

Northern Area:

EComp Aubrey Oldham

Southern Area:

EComp Peter Douthwaite

Western Area:

EComp Peter Faulkner

Royal Arch District Officers:

Eastern Area

Rochdale

EComp Andrew Evans

Oldham

EComp Christopher Cunliffe

Mcr/Salford

City Derby

EComp Andrew Greenhalgh

Pan Manchester

EComp Pete Maguire

City Sykes

EComp Bill Lister

Salford

EComp John Roberts

Northern Area

East Ribble

EComps Paul Smillie and Mike Stubbs

Burnley & Pendle

EComp David Stephen Tyman

Southern Area

Ashton & Mossley

EComps Les Kay and Norman Walker

Audenshaw

EComp Walter Spence

Western Area

Bolton

EComp Stephen Holcroft

Bury

EComp Andrew Kinsey



New and Renewed Acting Officer Posts in Provincial Grand Chapter



ProvGSE	HOLLAND Andrew	C37 Concord Deane
ProvGSN	HUNTER Ian Mark Suffield	C37 Concord Deane
ProvGTreas	BROWNSON Jonathan Selwyn	C6594 Ark and Menorah
ProvGReg	MCMILLAN Gordon	C1775 Leopold
ProvGDC	PROCTER Andrew	C9640 Red Rose of Lancs
ProvGSwdB	COOPER Harold	C1723 St George's
ProvDepGDC	BASGER Jonathan	C6594 Ark and Menorah
ProvDepGDC	HOLCROFT Stephen Paul	C9468 Euclid Chapter of Inst 1 st Prins
ProvGAlm	HUDSON David	C993 Alexandra
ProvGChStwd	FINDLAY Robert William	C37 Concord Deane
ProvGSoj	ASTLEY Clive Stewart	C7814 Cathedral
Prov1stAGSoj	BERG Jonathan	C6594 Ark and Menorah
Prov2ndAGSoj	KERSHAW Ronald	C1218 Prince Alfred
ProvAGSE	NORRIS Roger Stuart	C9640 Red Rose of Lancashire
ProvGStB	BANNISTER David Sydney	C7958 Unitas Fratrum
ProvGStB	MACNEILL Ian Roderick	C221 Maritime
ProvGStB	STEVENS Leslie William	C3867 West Salford
ProvGStB	TENNANT Stuart Richard	C268 Union
ProvGOrg	STOKES Christopher Peter	C62 Social
ProvAGDC	DAVIES Francis Ernest Scott	C268 Union
ProvAGDC	EVANS Andrew Barry	C367 Probity and Freedom
ProvGStwd	AFSA Mohamad	C6594 Ark and Menorah
ProvGStwd	FORBES Bernard Arthur	C266 Naphtali
ProvGStwd	HANSELL Howard	C344 Chapter of Beauty
ProvGStwd	HINDLE Antony	C116 Cana
ProvGStwd	MAGUIRE Peter James	C1083 Townley Parker
ProvGStwd	SMITH Mark Ronald	C5771 Papyrean
ProvGStwd	WOOD Craig David	C6163 Werneth
ProvGJan	SMITH Donald James	C462 Bank Terrace



First Appointments to Provincial Grand Chapter



PPGSoj	JONES Gareth Royston	C6005 Good Comps of Commemoration
PPGSoj	PARKINSON Kenneth Malcolm	C219 Loyal Todmorden
PP1stAGSoj	BROWN Alan	C266 Naphtali
PP1stAGSoj	GRIDLEY Ronald James	C37 Concord Deane
PP1stAGSoj	SQUIRES Michael Jameson	C116 Cana
PPGStB	FAWCETT Brian	C344 Chapter of Beauty
PPGStB	LINGARD Bryon	C116 Cana
PPGStB	MITCHELL Terence	C7224 Fairfield
PPGStB	ROUTH Garth	C2529 Abbey
PPGStB	TANNER Frederic Jack Thomas	C8798 Pennine
PPProvAGDC	DIGNAN Christopher	C7814 Cathedral
PPAGDC	JENKINS Andrew Paul	C62 Social
PPAGDC	PEARSON Thomas William	C1775 Leopold
PPAGDC	WILSON Iain	C152 Chapter of Virtue

Promotions within Provincial Grand Chapter



PPGSN	HALL John George	C367 Probity and Freedom
PPGSN	HALLWORTH Charles William	C1322 Waverley
PPGSN	HEAP Robert Edmonson	C116 Cana
PPGSN	KAY Leslie	C6594 Ark and Menorah
PPGSN	MAYNE Keith Stanley	C1322 Waverley
PPGSN	RHODES Peter	C277 Tudor
PPGSN	SMITH Brian	C219 Loyal Todmorden
PPGReg	BARNES Raymond Edwin	C37 Concord Deane
PPGReg	BARTON Steven	C7958 Unitas Fratrum
PPGReg	GARSIDE William	C210 Chapter of Faith
PPGReg	HORTON Iain	C4828 Audenshaw
PPGReg	WATTS Roger Patrick	C3336 Samaritan
PPGSwdB	BOYDELL Iain Malcolm	C1322 Waverley



Promotions within Provincial Grand Chapter (contd)



PPGSwdB	HILTON James William	C1219 Renaissance
PPGSwdB	HORAN Martin David Edward	C1723 St George's
PPGSwdB	PILLING Stephen Mark	C1322 Waverley
PPDepGDC	BAINES Edwin Stead	C854 Albert
PPDepGDC	BUCKLEY Carl	C6163 Werneth
PPDepGDC	FOSTER Andrew John	C3867 West Salford
PPDepGDC	KINSEY Andrew Richard	C1723 St George's
PPDepGDC	LAW David Michael	C266 Naphtali
PPDepGDC	ROGERS Simon John	C277 Tudor
PPDepGDC	ROTHBURN Howard David	C6594 Ark and Menorah
PPDepGDC	WORSLEY Geoffrey William	C348 St John's
PPGSoj	BARROW Eric	C7224 Fairfield
PPGSoj	BLAYLOCK Ian Edward	C221 Maritime
PPGSoj	BLINSTON Harold Graham	C37 Concord Deane
PPGSoj	BRYANT Derek	C1219 Renaissance
PPGSoj	COLLINS Paul Jeffrey	C8948 Horizon
PPGSoj	COLLINS Robert Graham	C37 Concord Deane
PPGSoj	HOLLAND Stephen John	C7958 Unitas Fratrum
PPGSoj	JENKINSON Sidney	C7814 Cathedral
PPGSoj	JONES Alan David	C1775 Leopold
PPGSoj	MOSS Elliot Graham	C6594 Ark and Menorah
PPGSoj	SCHWARZ Martin John	C993 Alexandra
PP1stAGSoj	BAIN Andrew James	C462 Bank Terrace
PP1stAGSoj	HOLLAND Martin Francis	C219 Loyal Todmorden
PP1stAGSoj	SHALOM David Michael	C6594 Ark and Menorah
PP1stAGSoj	SPIBY William David	C3788 Kitchener
PP1stAGSoj	SUMMERS Robert	C116 Cana
PP1stAGSoj	WHITELEGG Gary	C367 Probity and Freedom
PP2ndAGSoj	BLACKBURN Fred William	C128 Prince Edwin's
PP2ndAGSoj	DAVIES Andrew James	C350 Chapter of Meribah
PP2ndAGSoj	HOYLE Graeme Alex	C42 Chapter of Unanimity
PP2ndAGSoj	MUIR Graham Douglas	C2185 Ardwick
PPGStB	JONES Garry Malcolm	C348 St John's





SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER
OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS
OF ENGLAND

Every year we also see exceptional contribution to the work of Provincial Grand Chapter recognised by appointment to, and promotion within Supreme Grand Chapter. The following Companions have been so recognised this year:

Reappointments to Acting Rank

EComp Dr Simon Archer – Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies

New Appointments

EComp David Hudson – Past Grand Standard Bearer

EComp Albert Kirk Mulhearn – Past Grand Standard Bearer

EComp Aubrey Oldham – Past Grand Standard Bearer

EComp Andrew Procter – Past Grand Standard Bearer

Promotions

EComp John Whitfield – Past Assistant Grand Sojourner



Notable Royal Arch Anniversaries



In every newsletter we publish a list of notable anniversaries of continuous membership of the Royal Arch. This newsletter covers those exalted between 2nd November and 1st April 10, 20, 30, 40 and 50 years ago. It includes the name and number of the Chapter into which they were exalted. ***Congratulations to you all.***

Name	Chapter Number and Name	
10 years		
Steven John Bane	C62	Social
David Robert Burge	C219	Loyal Todmorden
Ian John Delaney	C7814	Cathedral
Ronald Charles Dempster	C4858	Ashlar
John Lees	C277	Tudor
Peter Graham Lockwood	C3787	Chapter of Remembrance
Bernard Charles Percy	C277	Tudor
Stuart Richard Tennant	C268	Union
Stefan Urban	C42	Chapter of Unanimity
David John Whittaker	C1775	Leopold
Iain Wilson	C152	Chapter of Virtue
Roy Woodcock	C6531	Darley
Brian Worthington	C2341	Unity
20 years		
Richard Riley	C2702	Hollingworth
Ian Whitehead	C3867	West Salford
Adrian Russell Wild	C2482	Duchess of York
Paul Jeffrey Collins	C8948	Horizon
Thomas Ross Turnbull	C7814	Cathedral
Peter William Dugdale	C3317	Ben Brierley
Brian Davies	C8798	Pennine
Peter Alan Tweedale	C54	Chapter of Hope
30 years		
Gordon McMillan	C1775	Leopold
Peter Graham Hewitt	C367	Probity and Freedom
Kenneth Edward Olive	C815	Blair
James Augustine Strudwick	C999	Robert Burns
Philip Granville Mountford	C128	Prince Edwin's
Peter Blackhurst	C350	Chapter of Meribah
John David Collier	C350	Chapter of Meribah
Arthur John Pearson	C8798	Pennine
Anthony Edward Cleworth	C219	Loyal Todmorden
Michael Jeremy Hacking	C369	Limestone Rock
40 years		
David Riley	C462	Bank Terrace
Frederick Ernest Plant	C815	Blair
50 years		
Peter John Swain	C7042	Hartshead





I used to think there was a Chinese curse “May you live in interesting times”, but it appears there is no such Chinese saying. It would seem to be apocryphal. The Quote Investigator website says that Joseph Chamberlain, father of Neville Chamberlain, set the hare running in 1898 with, *“I think that you will all agree that we are living in most interesting times. I never remember myself a time in which our history was so full, in which day by day brought us new objects of interest.....”*



At the present time, I guess we could say much the same about Freemasonry in general and Royal Arch Freemasonry in East Lancashire in particular. To recap, in the last year or so the following major events have occurred:

- The Covid pandemic brought personal worry and loss, but now most of us seem to have the worst behind us and are sanguine for the future.
- Having led us very successfully for 10 years and guided us through the Covid pandemic, Sir David Trippier reached the end of his patent and retired as Provincial Grand Master and Most Excellent Grand Superintendent in November last year.
- After 4-5 months where Craft Freemasonry in the Province was in the charge of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the Royal Arch, the Deputy Grand Superintendent, and subsequently the 2nd Provincial Grand Principal, we have just witnessed the installation of Robert Frankl as Provincial Grand Master and Most Excellent Grand Superintendent.
- We are also coming to terms with the fallout of Covid on our Chapters and Halls, our friends and our self-confidence.
- Lastly, at least in this list, we are in the early stages of a 5 year Festival, having witnessed the importance of Festival ourselves in the recent past. The income helped us respond to the effects of Covid, and working together as a nationwide fraternal and caring organisation, we donated £50,000 to support the British Red Cross in Ukraine just days after Russia’s invasion and have since donated much more.

We now have the opportunity to learn, regroup and approach the future with positivity and renewed endeavour. When I first joined Freemasonry (I was initiated into Manchester Dramatic Lodge), one of our older masons was a Scot and a member of a prestigious Scottish Lodge which could trace its origins back (he said) to the beginnings of Freemasonry in Scotland [http://www.cedarcitylodge.org/books/Freemasonry%20-%20Vol2No04..Mother%20Kilwinning%20No.%2000%20\(11%20pgs\).pdf](http://www.cedarcitylodge.org/books/Freemasonry%20-%20Vol2No04..Mother%20Kilwinning%20No.%2000%20(11%20pgs).pdf)

He also claimed the Lodge minutes recorded a Calling Off for the battle of Bannockburn! History may suggest an element of “truth economics” in that story.



That aside, it doesn't take much to scan minutes of appropriate Lodges and Chapters and identify the past effects of war, illness and catastrophe on Freemasonry. Manchester Dramatic Lodge, for instance, documented substantial changes in membership during the Boer and 1st World Wars and a major decline in membership with the introduction of the cinema (its in the name)!

I have a perspective on Royal Arch Freemasonry in East Lancs as APGP for Manchester and Salford and I hear about the rest of the Province from my fellow APGPs. We are emerging from the travails of the past 2 years strong and active. We look different, that is inevitable. We have lost Chapters, there are 2 in Manchester I know of, and you will know of others across the Province. At the same time, I know of two new Chapters that have formed in Salford, and East Lancs Royal Arch Freemasonry has spread internationally through Friendship 44, and Internet 9659. Change is nothing new, dynamism is embedded in Freemasonry's history.

What is less immediately visible, is that since the end of lockdown there have been many exaltations across the Province, 14 on "my patch" alone. It is worth noting that those 14 new Companions are more than the joint active membership of the two Chapters that closed. I also sense a real excitement amongst men for Freemasonry. We can speculate as to the origins of this resurgence, but something deep down makes me believe that this is, at least in part, a response to the relative isolation of lockdown and the somewhat inhospitable "social" media-driven society we live in. Contrast this with the friendship and camaraderie Freemasonry offers, in reality, and in its "truly social" media presence. What I have found interesting is that amongst many "new" masons with whom I have communicated there is a profound interest in the social and moral beliefs that have underpinned Freemasonry for more than 300 years. This has included a real desire to understand the "Completion of Ancient Freemasonry" represented by the Royal Arch, which bodes well for our Order.

The Royal Arch has a life of its own, but it also requires direction and guidance. It is into this role that our new Most Excellent Grand Superintendent steps. As you can see from "An Update on the Royal Arch Officers" in this newsletter there is also a new Deputy Grand Superintendent, 2nd Provincial Grand Principal and two APGPs (see the latter's' contributions later in the Newsletter). These aren't fly-by-night characters, but men steeped in the Royal Arch. The Royal Arch is in good hands!

How will the Royal Arch be changed following the installation of our new Most Excellent Grand Superintendent? He is sure to have a vision from which we will benefit.

Before his elevation, the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent was APGM in Salford and, as his APGP, I worked with him extensively during lockdown. Extrapolating from those experiences, I am certain his vision for East Lancashire Royal Arch Freemasonry will be underpinned by the very best of those Masonic tennets and principles that have stood the test of time, and will be well-considered, produced only after wide consultation, tailored for our Province, forward looking, and deliverable.

Interesting times indeed! So, in best journalistic style "watch this space".



This will be a topic that concentrates our minds for some time to come. Recent experience shows the need for Festival. The strap line for our festival reflects that experience:

“Brethren and companions – it is now our opportunity to give something back!”

This was part of the key message from VWBro John Farrington as Deputy Provincial Grand Master in Charge.

The East Lancashire 2026 Festival will now be the central focus of this Province for the next five years, and I am certain that our events and fundraising activities will bring us closer together; we will work hard, enjoy ourselves, involve our families and have fun. But above all, we must never forget the personal stories of all those people our funds are helping. The Provincial Rulers, Appeal Committee and District Teams will unite to make it work, but none of this will be possible without your support and that of the brethren and companions of this great Province and their families.

The most effective way of raising funds is through regular payment promises and the sooner we can encourage brethren to ‘sign up’ and support, the more chance we have of working towards the Provincial target – which I have set at £2.4 million. The average donation we are asking for is £10 per month for the five years of fundraising. Some will be able to give more, some less, and I would not ask anyone to consider giving any sum unless it is totally affordable. There will be many messages, but what sits solidly in my mind, is that during the 2019/20 financial year, the Masonic Charitable Foundation (MCF, the Freemasons' charity) spent almost £650,000 supporting East Lancashire Freemasons and their dependents who were in need. This also included providing support to local charities in East Lancashire, and COVID-19-related work within the Province, such as looking after young carers, the homeless, victims of domestic abuse, those suffering with poor mental health and providing food and PPE where it was needed. My sincere wish is that each of us, in our own way, will offer our full support to the Festival and continue to demonstrate that great virtue which is the distinguishing characteristic of a Freemason's heart.

And this is complimented by a message from EComp Martin Roche, for the Royal Arch

This Festival is just as important for the Holy Royal Arch as it is for the Craft. The generosity of our companions and their commitment to charity is well established. I know that the companions of East Lancashire will commit to supporting the Festival, and do all that we can to ensure it is a success and something for all of us to be proud of.

There is a great deal more that can be found on the Provincial website at

https://www.eastlancashirefreemasons.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/East-lancashire-launch-brochure-Version-2_V1-SC.pdf

The Province recognises that most masons will make individual contributions to the Festival independently or through their Lodges. For the Royal Arch they have asked that Companions donate as Chapters. A series of honorifics have been set to acknowledge and celebrate Chapter financial achievements. Certificates will be awarded to Chapters that donate or promise to donate at the following level: Vice Patron - £750, Patron - £1,500, Grand Patron - £2,250. Remember – ***“The festival is now our opportunity to give something back!”***





From EComp Peter Faulkner, Western Area

Companions all, firstly can I express my sincere thanks to EComp Kirk Mulhearn for his sterling work as our Western Area APGP for three years or so.

The Royal Arch in Western Area is covered by EComp Steven Holcroft (Bolton District) and EComp Andrew Kinsey (Bury District) as RADO's (Royal Arch District Officers) and myself as APGP.

Steven and Andrew work with Craft Lodges supporting them and their Lodge RA Reps., and 'seeking out' master masons who would like to become Royal Arch Freemasons.

In addition we all support our Chapters by offering a wealth of experience in the Royal Arch to help you as a member and your Chapter succeed.

The last two years have been very challenging, both in our private lives and indeed hobbies, Freemasonry in this case, with hugely differing consequences. As we now return to more normal lives the opportunity to revisit our friendships and Royal Arch connections becomes available, I can see that many chapters are vibrant with new Exalatees and indeed joining members – great to see, very encouraging. Individually Beauty Chapter at Radcliffe have moved to a daytime meeting, Euclid Chapter at Bolton is looking to hold its intermediate meeting at Radcliffe, following the closure of the Farnworth Hall, but both are keen to take different opportunities up. Sadly Papyrus Chapter has closed but early indications are that their members are re-joining elsewhere.

St George's Chapter at Bolton is hosting a Learning & Development presentation at its 6th May meeting. We do hope you will support and experience a different Hall, different menu and see the newly refurbished bar area and main room. Early plans are also being made for a 'Passing of the Veils Ceremony' presentation in the Area during 2023, again something different, engaging and offering some learning as well.

We are keen to support you, that can be by assisting with different styles or content of your Chapter meetings, marking celebratory events, I'm thinking here of where you might have a longstanding Companion who may not qualify for a 50th or beyond but worthy of marking his membership by a special – 'thank-you' for his service.

Please don't simply have a business meeting but include a short presentation on a topic of Masonic interest, internal or external, all can be arranged, lots of material exists.

But overall have fun, laugh at our idiosyncrasies, enjoy the friendships and carry out the ritual with sincerity.

Steven, Andrew and myself would be pleased to assist just call or email.

EComp Peter Faulkner
APGP Western Area
eMail western.apgp@mail.com
M 07709194646



From EComp Steve Boyle, Eastern Area

I will officially take over as APGP for Eastern area At Provincial Grand Chapter on the 29th of March, I am really looking forward to taking on the role. Most of the Companions in the area will already know me from my previous roles as a DC in both the Royal Arch and the Mark degree. I was the noisy one.

It will be my intention to get round to all the Chapters as soon as possible and introduce myself.

Of the 13 Chapters in Eastern Area some have really good membership numbers, and some are on the low side. So, I will also be asking the RADO's (Rochdale, EComp Andrew Evans and Oldham, EComp Christopher Cunliffe) to visit all the Lodges in our Area, to promote the Royal Arch and try to support those Chapters that would like to see their membership increased.

This will build on the excellent work the RADO's have already been doing, but our return to more normal times, and a resurgence in Freemasonry offers new opportunities.

The Royal Arch is the completion of Ancient Freemasonry, and colourful and happy order, a message we need to get across to ensure those who wish can get even more out of their Masonry.

Key to our success is giving the Royal Arch Representatives in every Lodge the support and advice they need to promote the virtues and values of the Royal Arch in their Lodges.

Let's make our Freemasonry enjoyable especially the Royal Arch. No two Chapters are the same, they all have their own unique personalities driven by the companions.

Let us keep our meetings interesting and enjoyable, if the Chapters don't have a ceremony then we should select a short paper from Solomons Nuggets.

I must go now, I have many shirts to iron (yes I do all my own ironing)



A bit of light-heartedness



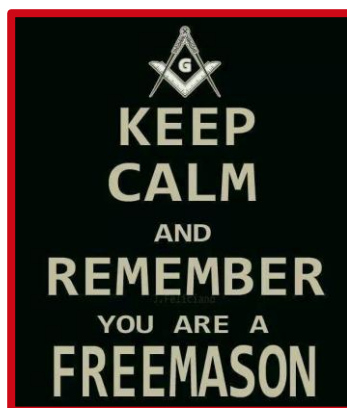
For best results on shirts set iron to boiling.





So what to do if your ritual doesn't come back to you immediately?:

Step 1:



Step 2: If that doesn't work I recommend falling back on the fact that Royal Arch ritual differs from Chapter to Chapter. So you need to play on that. Tell the assembled:

Our Chapter is in the vanguard of making Royal Arch ritual more understandable. Thus (thus always goes down well in ritual) the Exaltation Ceremony in our Chapter has gone minimalist and the newly adopted explanation to Exaltees is now: 3 guys, one of whom is you, walked from Babylon to Jerusalem, got jobs as navvies 'cos that was all that was left, found this hole under the old temple, forgot to bring a torch so had to wait till midday when by the light of the sun saw some really important stuff they can only tell you about in a corner in a whisper. If they got it right they hope to join the club, but understand that may not be possible if there are more than 69 members already.

Just one word of caution, this tactic may not work if EComp Harvey Basger is present!





Here is a list of Royal Arch Events in East Lancashire already timetabled. More to come in future Newsletters.

It would be wonderful to have packed houses at all these events to support the Companions and Chapters involved.

2022

14 April	Talking Heads	Parnassus Lodge 7869, Audenshaw
28 April	SGC Investiture meeting	Great Queen Street, London
12 May	3747 Chapter (half-yearly)	Manchester Hall
4 June	RA Banquet	Manchester Hall
13 October	3747 Chapter (Installation)	Manchester Hall
9 November	SGC (half-yearly)	Great Queen Street, London
17 November	Provincial Grand Lodge	King George's Hall, Blackburn
21 November	RA Personal 50 th : EComp David Brown. Bury Masonic Hall, (Prince Edwin's Chapter No. 128)	
2 December	RA Personal 50 th : EComp William Fairhurst. Radcliffe Masonic Hall (Beauty Chapter No. 344)	
5 December	8408 Chapter (half-yearly)	TBA

2023

16 March	Provincial Grand Chapter	King George's Hall, Blackburn
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And Finally



Next Newsletter in November will focus on Exaltees.

If you have any exaltee stories you would like to share please contact me:

Tonyfreemont@hotmail.com

