



THE GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS

of England and Wales and its Districts and Lodges Overseas

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26 March 2018

To: Provincial/District Grand Masters and Grand Inspector

Cc: Provincial/District and Inspectorate Grand Secretaries, Secretaries of Unattached Lodges

2018 Mark Grand Rank Appointments

At the recent Provincial & District Grand Master's Forum I spoke about planned changes to the format of the June Investiture meeting and the process for communicating Grand Rank appointments to recipients.

As a result of the feedback I received following the Forum, I have decided to make some changes to the process I outlined to those who were present at the meeting on 13 March.

This note explains how we plan to communicate Grand Rank appointments to recipients this year and the changes affecting the June Investiture meeting.

Communicating Grand Ranks Appointments

The complete list of confirmed Grand Rank Appointments for 2018 (Appointments *and* Promotions) will be emailed to Provincial and District Grand Masters/Grand Inspector this coming Thursday, 29 March 2018.

Letters of Appointment will be sent to all recipients on Friday, 6 April 2018. A copy of the complete list of Grand Rank Appointments will be emailed to Provincial/District/Inspectorate Grand Secretaries and Secretaries of Unattached Lodges on the same day.

Annual Investiture – June 2018

Owing to the high attendance at the June Communication and the costs arising from the need to stream coverage of the event to overflow Lodge Rooms, the General Board has agreed to the investiture being split between the June and September Communications this year on a trial basis.

Brethren being appointed to Active Grand Rank or receiving a First Appointment will be invested at the June Communication, as usual. Brethren being promoted in Grand Rank will be invested at the Communication on Tuesday, 11 September 2018.

All recipients will be notified of their appointment, by letter, at the end of next week although Brethren being promoted will only receive a short-form version of the Letter of Appointment – more detailed information will be sent to them in mid-June.

It is our intention to limit attendance at the June meeting to the capacity of the Grand Temple at Freemasons' Hall (approx. 1,700). As a result, all Brethren wishing to attend the meeting (whether dining or not) will be required to notify us of their intentions. The papers of business for the June Communication will be issued next month.

I would ask you to use every opportunity, when visiting Lodges in your respective jurisdictions, to inform Brethren about these important changes.

With fraternal regard and best wishes.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ryan A. Williams". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "R" and a long, sweeping flourish at the end.

R.W.Bro. Ryan A Williams, P.G.J.W.
Grand Secretary