

The Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England
and Wales and its Districts and Lodges Overseas



MINUTES
of the
COMMUNICATION
of GRAND LODGE
held on Tuesday, 12 September 2017

at 2 p.m. in the Grand Temple, Freemasons' Hall
60 Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ

PRESENT

M.W.Bro. RAYMOND JOHN SMITH
Pro Grand Master

R.W.Bro. JOHN HERBERT PRIZEMAN
Deputy Grand Master

R.W.Bro. STEPHEN DAVISON
Assistant Grand Master

Past Pro Grand Masters

M.W.Bro. J. Hale
M.W.Bro. B. Addy
M.W.Bro. R. V. Wallis, *JP*

Past Deputy Grand Masters

R.W.Bro. M. E. Herbert
R.W.Bro. H. K. Emmerson

Provincial and District Grand Masters

R.W.Bro. Revd T. J. WalkerProvincial Grand Master for Lincolnshire
R.W.Bro. C. D. Radmore Provincial Grand Master for Hertfordshire
R.W.Bro. J. D. A. Platts.....Provincial Grand Master for Bristol
R.W.Bro. G. Craigs..... Provincial Grand Master for Northumberland
R.W.Bro. M. A. CooperDistrict Grand Master for Germany
R.W.Bro. P. A. NormanProvincial Grand Master for East Anglia
R.W.Bro. D. F. Ashbolt.....Provincial Grand Master for London

R.W.Bro. P. M. Ball	Provincial Grand Master for Nottinghamshire
R.W.Bro. C. M. Wilson	Provincial Grand Master for Sussex
R.W.Bro. S. B. Cobham	District Grand Master for South & East Caribbean
R.W.Bro. P. Talbot	Provincial Grand Master for North Wales
R.W.Bro. K. Hodgson	Provincial Grand Master for Cumberland & Westmorland
R.W.Bro. J. Steggles	Provincial Grand Master for West Yorkshire
R.W.Bro. J. Verbist	District Grand Master for Belgium
R.W.Bro. D. Thomas	Provincial Grand Master for Monmouthshire
R.W.Bro. R. J. Olliver	Provincial Grand Master for Berkshire
R.W.Bro. C. Cantrell	Provincial Grand Master for Derbyshire
R.W.Bro. J. G. Morgan, <i>RRC, TD, JP</i>	Provincial Grand Master for Somerset
R.W.Bro. K. J. Hicks	Provincial Grand Master for Cornwall
R.W.Bro. I. N. Clark	Provincial Grand Master for Surrey
R.W.Bro. R. Howard	Provincial Grand Master for Bedfordshire
R.W.Bro. Prof. D. K. Wilson	Provincial Grand Master for Durham
R.W.Bro. D. R. Sellers	Provincial Grand Master for Cheshire
R.W.Bro. His Hon. I. D. G. Alexander, <i>QC</i>	Provincial Grand Master for Oxfordshire
R.W.Bro. D. R. Clancey	Provincial Grand Master for North & East Yorkshire
R.W.Bro. K. A. Beardmore	Provincial Grand Master for West Lancashire
R.W.Bro. F. J. Gillo	Provincial Grand Master for Gloucestershire & Herefordshire
R.W.Bro. T. D. Shearn	Provincial Grand Master for Essex
R.W.Bro. D. E. Tremaine	Provincial Grand Master for Buckinghamshire
R.W.Bro. E. J. Rymer	Provincial Grand Master for Worcestershire
R.W.Bro. M. J. L. Whelan, <i>JP</i>	Provincial Grand Master for Dorset
R.W.Bro. A. S. McLaren	Provincial Grand Master for East Lancashire
R.W.Bro. D. A. Upton	Provincial Grand Master for Channel Islands
R.W.Bro. G. J. Deacon	Provincial Grand Master for Hampshire & Isle of Wight
R.W.Bro. T. R. E. Jones	Provincial Grand Master for South Wales
R.W.Bro. A. P. Beaumont	Provincial Grand Master for Wiltshire
R.W.Bro. P. J. Balson	Provincial Grand Master for Devonshire
R.W.Bro. M. R. Heenan	Provincial Grand Master for Staffordshire & Shropshire
R.W.Bro. P. J. Mann	Provincial Grand Master for Leicestershire & Rutland
R.W.Bro. K. M. Blackburn, <i>OSTJ</i>	Provincial Grand Master for Isle of Man
R.W.Bro. R. A. Stokes	Provincial Grand Master for Northants & Hunts.
R.W.Bro. C. Van Putten	District Grand Master for The Netherlands

Grand Officers of the Year

R.W.Bro. A J. Englefield	Grand Senior Warden
R.W.Bro. J. A. Harrison	Grand Junior Warden
V.W.Bro. C. L. Moore	Grand Master Overseer
V.W.Bro. S. R. N. Fenton	Grand Senior Overseer
V.W.Bro. M. W. Bayes	Grand Junior Overseer
V.W.Bro. Revd B. D. Harry	Grand Chaplain
R.W.Bro. P. Hawken, <i>MBE, P.Prov.G.M. (Devonshire)</i>	President of the General Board
R.W.Bro. J. N. G. Howitt, <i>P.G.J.W.</i>	Grand Treasurer
R.W.Bro. His Hon. Judge K. C. Cutler, <i>CBE, P.G.J.W.</i>	Grand Registrar
R.W.Bro. Dr J. L. W. Wright, <i>RD, FRCS, P.G.S.W.</i>	President of the M.B.F.
R.W.Bro. R. A. Williams <i>P.G.J.W.</i>	Grand Secretary
R.W.Bro. F. C. Spencer, <i>P.Prov.G.M. (Worcestershire)</i>	Grand Director of Ceremonies
W.Bro. D. J. Boswell	Grand Sword Bearer
W.Bro. W. Whitfield	Deputy Grand Chaplain
V.W.Bro. W. A. Divall, <i>P.G.J.O.</i>	Deputy President of the General Board
R.W.Bro. A. Morris, <i>P.Prov.G.M. (Leicestershire & Rutland)</i>	Deputy President of the M.B.F.

W.Bro. J. E. Vause	Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies
W.Bro. M. D. Hampson	Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies
W.Bro. M. F. Golding	Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies
V.W.Bro. V. J. Driver, P.G.J.O.	Deputy Grand Inspector of Works
W.Bro. R. N. Bedells	Deputy Grand Sword Bearer
W.Bro. T. M. Jenkins	Grand Senior Deacon
W.Bro. S. J. Smith	Grand Senior Deacon
W.Bro. N. Wilkinson	Grand Senior Deacon
W.Bro. K. Boon	Grand Junior Deacon
W.Bro. J. P. Clendinning	Grand Junior Deacon
W.Bro. J. L. Rose	Grand Junior Deacon
W.Bro. H. C. H. Tsoi	Grand Junior Deacon
W.Bro. A. J. White	Grand Junior Deacon
W.Bro. M. S. J. French	Assistant Grand Registrar
V.W.Bro. J. C. Roberts, P.G.J.O.	Assistant Grand Secretary
W.Bro. D. M. Heath	Assistant Grand Secretary
W.Bro. A. E. Farrar	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
W.Bro. P. Furness	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
W.Bro. D. N. Hanson	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
W.Bro. R. C. Neal	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
W.Bro. G. H. Scaife	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
W.Bro. S. B. Gohil	Assistant Grand Inspector of Works
W.Bro. D. S. L. Lo	Assistant Grand Sword Bearer
W.Bro. N. C. W. Liles, P.G.S.D.	Grand Organist
W.Bro. C. W. Hill	Grand Standard Bearer
W.Bro. C. W. Norris	Grand Standard Bearer
W.Bro. M. Rizzardi	Deputy Grand Organist
W.Bro. G. King	Assistant Grand Standard Bearer
W.Bro. D. C. T. G. Roberts-Jones	Assistant Grand Organist
W.Bro. W. R. Barr	Grand Inner Guard
W.Bro. P. R. H. Morgan	Assistant Grand Inner Guard
W.Bro. J. Bassford	Grand Steward
W.Bro. H. A. Crook	Grand Steward
W.Bro. G. R. Denman	Grand Steward
W.Bro. E. N. T. El-Attrache	Grand Steward
W.Bro. T. Ford	Grand Steward
W.Bro. C. P. Hall	Grand Steward
W.Bro. A. J. Krzysica	Grand Steward
W.Bro. J. W. Linkin	Grand Steward
W.Bro. G. Owen	Grand Steward
W.Bro. J. S. Priestley	Grand Steward
W.Bro. A. Robinson	Grand Steward
W.Bro. D. M. Silver	Grand Steward
W.Bro. D. C. Smith	Grand Steward
W.Bro. A. H. Thomas	Grand Steward
W.Bro. S. J. Trevalins	Grand Steward
W.Bro. R. Ward	Grand Steward
W.Bro. A. L. Wright	Grand Steward
W.Bro. N. L. Yarde	Grand Steward
W.Bro. L. J. Millings, P.G.S.D.	Grand Tyler

Past Provincial & District Grand Masters

R.W.Bro. J. O. B. Barke, P.Prov.G.M., Gloucs. & Herts (1996-2004)
R.W.Bro. P. H. Rollin, P.Prov.G.M., East Anglia (1998-2010)
R.W.Bro. P. G. Halls-Dickerson, P.Prov.G.M., Middlesex (2001-2012)
R.W.Bro. R. J. Wade, P.Prov.G.M., Kent (2003-2008)
R.W.Bro. D. G. Hugh, P.Dist.G.M., South & East Caribbean (2003-2011)
R.W.Bro. R. S. H. Hussey, P.Prov.G.M., Surrey (2004-2014)
R.W.Bro. R. J. Slade, P.Prov.G.M., Oxfordshire (2004-2012)
R.W.Bro. F. C. Spencer, P.Prov.G.M., Worcestershire (2005-2015)
R.W.Bro. A. Morris, P.Prov.G.M., Leicestershire & Rutland (2005-2015)
R.W.Bro. P. Hawken, *MBE*, P.Prov.G.M., Devonshire (2006-2016)
R.W.Bro. P. Connolly, P.Prov.G.M., West Lancashire (2007-2015)
R.W.Bro. M. G. Spencer, P.Prov.G.M., Essex (2007-2015)
R.W.Bro. P. J. Sands, P.Prov.G.M., Berkshire (2007-2013)
R.W.Bro. R. H. H. Croucher, P.Prov.G.M., Kent (2008-2013)
R.W.Bro. J. R. G. Hilditch, P.Prov.G.M., Oxfordshire (2012-2014)
R.W.Bro. I. Dingwall, P.Prov.G.M., New Zealand (2006-2017)
R.W.Bro. G. E. Bonham, P.Prov.G.M., Northants & Hunts (2006-2017)

Past Grand Wardens

R.W.Bro. J. Brackley, P.G.S.W., 2013
R.W.Bro. Sir F. W. Crawford, *DL*, P.G.S.W., 2014

R.W.Bro. M. E. Slater, *OStJ*, P.G.J.W., 2008
R.W.Bro. A. E. Stewart, P.G.J.W., 2009
R.W.Bro. T. F. Jackson, P.G.J.W., 2012
R.W.Bro. F. A. Smith, P.G.J.W., 2012
R.W.Bro. J. E. Green, P.G.J.W., 2013
R.W.Bro. K. J. Jones, P.G.J.W., 2014
R.W.Bro. A. C. Sweeney, P.G.J.W., 2015
R.W.Bro. G. L. Flight, P.G.J.W., 2016

Heads of Orders

R.W.Bro. A. J. Englefield	Sov. Grand Commander - Ancient & Accepted Rite
R.W.Bro. Sir F. W. Crawford, <i>DL</i> , P.G.S.W.	Lt Grand Commander – Ancient & Accepted Rite
R.W.Bro. G. L. Flight, G.J.W.	Grand Sovereign – RCC
R.W.Bro. K. J. Jones, P.G.J.W., G.D.C.	Grand Master – RSM
R.W.Bro. T. F. Jackson, P.G.J.W.	Grand Master – AMD
R.W.Bro. A. C. Sweeney, P.G.J.W.	Grand Summus – SC
R.W.Bro. M. E. Herbert, P.Dep.G.M.	Grand Master – KBHC
V.W.Bro. J. R. Paternoster, P.G.M.O.	Supreme Magus – SRIA

Overseas Brethren

BELGIUM

R.W.Bro. J. Verbist, Dist.G.M.
V.W.Bro. F. Clarembaux, P.G.J.O.
W.Bro. G. Butler, P.G.J.D.
W.Bro. G. E. A. Denys, P.A.G.D.C.
W.Bro. K. G. Howard
W.Bro. M. W. Fahey

GERMANY

R.W.Bro. M. A. Cooper, Dist.G.M.

W.Bro. R. Schoene, P.G.St.B.
W.Bro. J. C. Harris
W.Bro. A. Morecroft

HONG KONG

V.W.Bro. D. A. Fok, P.G.J.O..
W.Bro. H. C. H. Tsoi, G.J.D.
W.Bro. P. Purnell-Edwards, P.G.J.D.
W.Bro. R. W. Bull, P.A.G.D.C.
W.Bro. V. Lee, P.A.G.D.C.

NEW ZEALAND

W.Bro. A. J. M. Macdonald, P.A.G.D.C.

SOUTH AND EAST CARIBBEAN

R.W.Bro. S. Cobham, Dist.G.M.
R.W.Bro. D. G. Hugh, P.Dist.G.M.

THE NETHERLANDS

R.W.Bro. C. Van Putten, Dist.G.M.

And a number of Past Grand Officers, Masters, Wardens, Overseers, Past Masters and other Brethren.

Report of Proceedings

1. OPENING

Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form and the Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master was saluted under the direction of the Grand Director of Ceremonies.

2. IN MEMORIAM

The Grand Master referred with great regret to the death of R.W.Bro. Colin Woodward, P.Prov.G.M., Worcestershire; R.W.Bro. Justin Gerald Figov, P.Dist.G.M., South Africa (Western Division); R.W.Bro. Nana Doctor Fredua Mensah, P.Dist.G.M., Ghana; R.W.Bro. Ernest Peter Donnison, P.G.J.W.; R.W.Bro. Albert Edward Peter Jones, P.G.J.W.; and 42 other Grand Officers which had occurred since the last Communication.

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

3. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

The Minutes of the Communication of Grand Lodge held on Tuesday, 13 June 2017, which had been circulated with the Summons, were taken as read and confirmed.

4. REPORT OF THE GENERAL BOARD

The Report of the General Board of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons for the three months ended 30 June 2017, which had been included in the Summons, was taken as read, approved and adopted.

5. PURSUANT TO NOTICE OF MOTION

The Amendments to section 9.1, 9.1.3 and 9.1.4 of Annex A – Trust Deed, which had been included in the Summons for this meeting, were proposed and seconded and carried by the Brethren

6. NOMINATION OF THE GRAND MASTER

W.Bro. Paul Wilding, Prov.G.Stwd, Province of Berkshire, rose to give notice that at the next Communication of Grand Lodge to be held on Tuesday, 13 March 2018, he will propose the re-election of His Royal Highness Prince Michael of Kent, Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order, as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and its Districts and Lodges Overseas for the ensuing year.

7. NOMINATION OF THE GRAND TREASURER

The President of the General Board gave notice that at the next Communication of Grand Lodge, to be held on Tuesday, 13 March 2018, he would propose the re-election of R.W.Bro. John Norman George Howitt, P.G.J.W., as Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year.

8. GRANTS APPROVED BY THE TRUSTEES OF THE MARK BENEVOLENT FUND

On behalf of the President of the Mark Benevolent Fund, the President of the General Board rose to report that the Trustees of the Mark Benevolent Fund have made grants totalling £99,427 to the following worthy causes:

Barnet, Enfield & Haringay Mental Health NHS Trust	£5,035
EVS Bloodrun	£13,400
Nottingham Mencap	£30,400
Reading Association for the Blind	£50,592

9. CALLING OFF

The Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master called off Mark Grand Lodge.

10. PRESENTATION FROM MR PAUL BARRETT, OBE, CMG

The M.W. Pro Grand Master invited Mr Barrett, Chairman of the Trustees of the Chiltern Centre for the Disabled, to address the meeting and give the Brethren an overview of the work being undertaken by him and his team at the Centre who, in 2016, successfully applied for a grant of £14,500 to fund the cost of a new sensory room. Mr Barrett gave a fascinating insight to the work of the charity explaining that the grant for the new sensory room had enriched the lives and experiences of all who visited the centre. He concluded by thanking everyone for the donation and the continued support from the Order.

The Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master thanked Mr Barrett for his presentation which met with the acclamation of the Brethren

11. CALLING ON

The Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master called on Mark Grand Lodge.

12. ADDRESS BY THE MOST WORSHIPFUL PRO GRAND MASTER

The Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master addressed Grand Lodge as follows:

'Brethren, a very warm welcome to this September Communication of Mark Grand Lodge, the first of the new Masonic Season. I hope everyone has enjoyed the on/off English summer and for some, but maybe not all, a short break from Masonic meetings when perhaps the garden or DIY took priority.

My most important duty today is to bring the apology of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, His Royal Highness Prince Michael of Kent, for his absence today. He has an incredibly busy schedule with numerous commitments and official engagements and today is no exception. He has asked that his best wishes be communicated to you, he greatly enjoyed the June investiture meeting and hopes the busy year ahead proves to be another successful and enjoyable one. Following that investiture meeting our Grand Master wrote to the Grand Secretary expressing his pleasure at the success of the meeting, the impressive numbers attending with an amazing number of visitors many from overseas. It was indeed a very special day for all of us but more particularly for those receiving appointments or promotions.

The June meeting of Grand Lodge had hardly passed and the Mark Benevolent Fund Anniversary Festival was upon us on Saturday 8 July at Trunkwell House in Reading, under the Presidency of R.W.Bro. Richard Olliver, Provincial Grand Master for Berkshire. A Province of 19 Mark Lodges and 9 Royal Ark Mariner Lodges who, with the support of other Provinces and Districts, raised a magnificent festival total of £666,666. A truly remarkable achievement. I am certain we all thank the members of the Province of Berkshire for their generosity and their Provincial Grand Master and his festival committee for their ingenuity and fine leadership.

The festival next year will celebrate 150 years since the formation of the Mark Benevolent Fund by Canon Portal in 1868. It will take place on Saturday, 7 July 2018 at the County Showground in Lincoln under the Presidency of R.W.Bro. Revd Trevor Walker, the Provincial Grand Master for Lincolnshire. It will, I am certain, be a most memorable occasion. 150 years of charitable support for members in distress and grants to worthy causes is indeed something to be proud of and to celebrate.

In addition to the festival several other events are already being planned to mark this significant achievement. Whilst details are being finalised I am able to tell you that on 30 January 2018 we will inaugurate the Canon Portal Memorial Lecture – a bi-annual

event where a lecture will be delivered on a topic with a charitable theme. To round off our 150th celebrations on 15 September 2018 next year our Most Worshipful Grand Master will be present at a thanksgiving service to be held in Lincoln's Inn chapel.

The outstanding success of the Mark Benevolent Fund Charity Walk has been well reported and Provincial Grand Masters and other members of Provincial Executives who bravely, if a little naively, took part in the walk, will be pleased to know that it is not intended to repeat it next year. However the M.B.F. Trustees have decided that the proceeds of the walk, some £437,934, will be utilised to support the Nationwide Association of Blood Bikes. Work is still going on to identify what vehicles are required and their most suitable locations and we expect to make an announcement before the end of this year about the full extent of the support we will be providing to this charity.

The activities of the Mark Benevolent Fund have increased awareness of the assistance it gives to individual Brethren and to worthy causes. It has become clear that to educate our Brethren about the fund and, in particular, the ways in which support can be obtained, additional resource is necessary. As part of the restructuring of the administration at Mark Masons' Hall the Grand Secretary has appointed W.Bro. Darren Coleman, P.A.G.D.C., to a newly created post of Charities Manager with a specific brief to implement a proactive educational programme. I hope you will agree, Brethren, that this sharpened focus on sharing news of the M.B.F. is a welcome development. The most recent M.B.F. newsletter distributed electronically via Lodge Secretaries, detailed the huge difference the M.B.F. grant to the St Oswald's hospice in Newcastle-upon-Tyne for a new kitchen has made to the lives of both the residents and staff.

We have heard first hand from Mr Paul Barrett in his address to us of another benefit to the community that a grant from the Mark Benevolent Fund has had. Brethren, we should all be very proud of your generosity which enables this work to continue and for that I thank you very much indeed.

Continuing on the charity theme Brethren, on 1 July, I was privileged to be present at Armoury House, home of the Honourable Artillery Company, to witness the inauguration of our renewed partnership with St John Ambulance. You will recall that earlier this year the M.B.F. announced a major grant of over £3 million pounds to St John to fund the cost of 52 new vehicles to replace those purchased by the fund some 17 years ago. The handover event was a great showcase for the work of the M.B.F. and was graced by the presence of H.R.H. The Duke of Gloucester, Grand Prior of St John, who received the keys to the first two vehicles from our Grand Master H.R.H. Prince Michael of Kent. I am delighted to say that those first two vehicles are now in service in the Provinces of Cheshire and East Lancashire. Further news on the handover of the remaining 50 vehicles will be communicated to you soon.

The GLMMM website has a critical role to play in sharing information about all the orders administered from Mark Masons' Hall as well as supporting the administration of Districts, Provinces and Lodges. I am delighted to announce that work is now underway to design and build a cutting edge new website serving all orders with an expected launch date of December. This website is part of a new communication strategy also encompassing social media contact and delivery of more efficient administration processes.

Provincial Grand Secretaries and Lodge Secretaries will be delighted to know that after some 18 months of development work installation returns will be available via Keystone Online from October. This roll out signals another step forward in the development of Keystone as a single, usable dynamic membership database. More detailed information about the roll out will be cascaded out to Provincial Grand Secretaries in the coming weeks. This Masonic year will be a busy one, indeed it has already been a

busy one. I have been privileged to have installed R.W.Bro. Gareth Hicks as Provincial Grand Master for Dyfed and R.W.Bro. Robert Stokes as Provincial Grand Master for Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire. Last weekend, once again supported by the very hard working Grand Lodge team, it was a delight to install R.W.Bro. Cornelis van Putten as District Grand Master for the Netherlands. I am delighted that two of those three Brethren are here today. I also wish to place on record the appreciation of us all for the dedication and commitment of the two retiring Provincial Grand Masters and the one retiring District Grand Master. All three have been personal friends, they still have much to contribute and I know their wise counsel will be readily given if needed and I very much hope to see them here at meetings of Grand Lodge in the future.

It was also an enormous pleasure and privilege to attend the centenary celebrations of the District of Singapore whose generous hospitality and warmth of welcome I shall long remember. Those celebrations were well supported by the District of Hong Kong and several Provinces from the UK.

The sesquicentenary of the Province of Cornwall will be celebrated in October and I, together with the immediate past Pro Grand Master, will be there representing Grand Lodge. As always in Cornwall I am certain it will be a wonderful occasion.

On the domestic front the summer recess has seen significant refurbishment work taking place at 86 St James's Street to further enhance our headquarters. The work brings to an end the current five-year building maintenance programme which has delivered notable improvements to the facilities available to all who visit and use the premises.

It is now my pleasure to welcome our distinguished visitors and guests and would ask you to hold your applause until I have finished all the announcements.

Firstly those new leaders in our Order:

R.W.Bro. Robert Stokes, Provincial Grand Master for Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire and R.W.Bro. Cornelis van Putten, District Grand Master for The Netherlands, welcome to you both on your first visit to Grand Lodge in your new capacity.

On your behalf I welcome the heads of our other orders:

R.W.Bro. Graham Flight, P.G.J.W. – Grand Sovereign of the Grand Conclave of the Red Cross of Constantine;

R.W.Bro. Kessick Jones, P.G.J.W. – Grand Master of the Grand Council of the Royal and Select Masters;

R.W.Bro. Thomas Jackson, P.G.J.W. – Grand Master of the Allied Masonic Degrees;

R.W.Bro. Andrew Sweeney, P.G.J.W. – Grand Summus of the Grand Senatus of the Order of the Scarlet Cord;

R.W.Bro. Michael Herbert, Past Deputy Grand Master – Grand Master of the Grand Priory of the Knights Beneficent of the Holy City;

V.W.Bro. John Paternoster, P.G.M.O. – Supreme Magus of the Societas Rosicruciana in Anglia.

We also have the great pleasure of having with us R.W.Bro. Alan Englefield, our Grand Senior Warden – Sovereign Grand Commander of the Ancient and Accepted Rite and R.W.Bro. Sir Frederick Crawford, *DL*, P.G.S.W. – Lieutenant Grand Commander of the Ancient and Accepted Rite.

I am certain we are also pleased to have three of our Past Pro Grand Masters with us, Most Worshipful Brothers John Hale, Benjamin Addy and Richard Wallis, *JP*.

From our own Constitution, I now welcome from Belgium: the District Grand Master, R.W.Bro. John Verbist accompanied by V.W.Bro. Francis Clarembaux, P.G.J.O., W.Bro. George Butler, P.G.J.D., W.Bro. Gilbert Denys, P.A.G.D.C., W.Bro. Michael Fahey and W.Bro. Kenneth Howard.

From Germany the District Grand Master, R.W.Bro. Michael Cooper accompanied by W.Bro. Schoene, P.G.St.B., W.Bro. J Harris and W.Bro. Allan Morecroft.

From Hong Kong, W.Bro. Patrick Purnell-Edwards, P.G.J.D., Deputy District Grand Master, accompanied by V.W.Bro. David Fok, P.G.J.O., W.Bro. Hak Tsoi, G.J.D., W.Bro. Robert Bull, P.A.G.D.C. and W.Bro. Vivian Lee, P.A.G.D.C.

From Singapore:

W.Bro. David Thomas, P.A.G.D.C. and W.Bro. Derek Lo who this year is our active Assistant Sword Bearer and who was in Singapore a few weeks ago was called upon to act as my Grand Sword Bearer. A special moment for us both.

From South and East Caribbean

R.W.Bro. Stephen Cobham, District Grand Master

Our thoughts are with your District following last week's hurricane and as you are aware the Mark Benevolent Fund stands by to assist our members in your District if help is required. R.W.Bro. Stephen is also accompanied by R.W.Bro. Derek Hugh, Past District Grand Master.

From New Zealand, W.Bro. Allan Macdonald, P.A.G.D.C.

Brethren, can we now show our appreciation and delight at having these Brethren with us today.

Brethren, this is one our shortest meetings, and I, like I am sure all of you, wish to go from labour to refreshment so I shall conclude by thanking you for your attendance, take back to your Provinces the news I have communicated to you in this address, and I hope we will all be together again at the Royal Ark Mariner investiture on Tuesday 12 December.

13. CLOSING

Grand Lodge was closed in Ample Form.

