



Spring 2020 Issue 20

# The Cambridgeshire Mason

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Picture: EComp. David Blair, WBro. Kevin Mader ProvGSec, and EComp. Paul Gillingwater.

## GRAND RANK HONOURS IN CRAFT & CHAPTER

Five Cambridgeshire brethren have received either first appointments or promotions to Grand Lodge, along with two receiving re-appointments.

The Provincial Grand Secretary, WBro. Kevin Mader, of Gild of St Mary Lodge No. 7288, will be invested as Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies at the annual investiture of the United Grand Lodge of England on 29th April. Also honoured with the same rank is WBro. Malcolm Basing, of Isaac Newton University Lodge No. 859.

Promoted to the active rank of Deputy Grand Sword Bearer is WBro. Peter Brindle PAGSwdB, of Kynaston Lodge No. 5810, while Provincial Grand Chaplain, WBro. Stuart Lingard PAGDC, of Lodge of Three Grand Principles No. 441, will become Past Junior Grand Deacon. WBro. Brian Heasman PGStB, of Etheldreda Lodge No. 2107, is promoted to Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies.

RWBro. Jonathan Spence, of Alma Mater Lodge No. 1492, is re-appointed as Deputy Grand Master, while VWBro. David Staples, of Stone Cross Lodge No. 6704, continues as Grand Secretary.

In the Royal Arch, there have been two first appointments and three promotions for Cambridgeshire companions.

The 2nd Provincial Grand Principal, EComp. David Blair, of Euclid Chapter No. 859, will be appointed to the active rank of Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies, while the 3rd Provincial Grand Principal, EComp. Paul Gillingwater will be honoured with the rank of Past Grand Standard Bearer.

Promoted is EComp. Peter Sutton PGStB, of Euclid Chapter, who will become Past Assistant Grand Sojourner. From Chapter of Probity No. 7333, EComp. Nick Franklin and EComp. Ray Pascoe will both be promoted to Past Grand Sword Bearer.

Cliff Brown

All Lodge and Chapter meetings within England & Wales are suspended for a period of four months from 17th March 2020.

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# NEW NAMES IN PROVINCIAL LODGE AND CHAPTER



WBro. Roger Billings, WBro. David Fountain and EComp. David Sowman

**The Provincial Grand Master, RWBro. William Dastur announced the appointments and promotions in the Craft and Royal Arch on 11th March. Re-appointed as Deputy Provincial Grand Master is VWBro. Patrick Kilby PGSwdB, of Gild of St Mary Lodge No. 7288.**

Taking on the roles of Provincial Wardens in June will be WBro. Roger Billings PPJGW and WBro. David Fountain PPGReg. WBro. Billings, of Etheldreda Lodge No. 2107, will be Provincial Senior Grand Warden, and WBro. Fountain, the Junior Warden.

In the Royal Arch, EComp. Tony Just PGSwdB, of St Etheldreda Chapter No. 2107, is re-appointed as Deputy Grand Superintendent, while the new 2nd Provincial Grand Principal will be former Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, EComp. David Sowman PGStB, of St Andrew Chapter No. 4087.

Serving the second year of his two-year term as 3rdProvGP is EComp. Paul Gillingwater.

The Provincial Grand Sword Bearers will be WBro. David Watson PPGStwd, of St Audrey Lodge No. 2727, in the Craft, with EComp. Ted Watts PProvGStB, of Caldwell Chapter No. 2727 appointed in the Royal Arch.

In the Royal Arch, EComp. Alex Allen PProvGReg, of Kynaston Chapter No. 5810, will be appointed Provincial Grand Scribe N. The new Provincial Grand Charity Steward will be EComp. David Cameron ProvGSoj, of Kynaston Chapter No. 5810, who is also secretary of the Province's Masonic Benevolent Association. EComp. Charlie Brown PProvAGSoj, also of Kynaston Chapter, will be Provincial Grand Treasurer.

**Cliff Brown**

## THE PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER SAYS...

Let me welcome you to the latest edition of The Cambridgeshire Mason, which is filled with photographs, stories and articles on what has been happening in the Province in the last few months, as well as previewing forthcoming coming events. It shows what a busy, successful and happy Province we are.

One of the successes which has delighted me the most has been the resurgence of the Light Blues Club under the leadership of Lee Wilson, Ed Williams, Adrian Peters and Tony Orfeo, supported by Jon West our Provincial Mentor. Their verve, enthusiasm and spirit have led to a huge increase in membership with an events programme that is varied and so exciting.

I am delighted with the progress being made on Festival 2023 as we raise funds to support the MCF which is, of course, your charity and does so much for freemasons and their dependents. As I have said previously: "We have five very busy but exciting years ahead of us whilst we raise funds for such a great cause. What is equally important though, is that we enjoy ourselves whilst involving our families, friends and the local communities."

At the successful reboot session in late January it was confirmed that we have now raised over £400,000 and have collected and committed funds of over £600,000; the generosity, enthusiasm and commitment from Cambridge freemasons is unparalleled. There are some fantastic events in train for the next nine months or so. Keep going brethren we still have a long way to go to our target, but I know we are enjoying the challenge, having fun and will be immensely proud of what we eventually achieve.

The new Grand Lodge and Supreme Grand Chapter appointees for Cambridgeshire and the key appointments in Provincial Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Chapter for the next year, which I announced on 11th March, are shown in this issue. They are all well-deserved and are worthy of our congratulations.

We shall be holding our meetings of Provincial Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Chapter on Tuesday 16th June at the West Road Concert Hall in Cambridge when I look forward to investing the new Provincial officers whilst also recognising those who are being promoted. We shall be dining at Queens' College, as normal. I hope you will come along to support those brethren and companions on their special day.



Membership remains a key area of importance in the Craft and Royal Arch and our continued focus on recruitment and retention is essential, particularly the latter. There are still too many resignations and the saddest part of this is that we lose too many old friends from our meetings. I implore all of you to engage with that brother or companion who doesn't appear to come anymore and see if you can entice or encourage him back to your next meeting. We shall be introducing this year an exit interview scheme designed to provide help and assistance to any Brother or Companion considering resignation and to help us understand why members are leaving.

The process will be confidential and undertaken by a team lead by WBro. Harry Rooke, who now joins our Pathway development team.

In contrast, I think we have the prospect of three new lodges being formed and then consecrated in the next nine months or so. This is very exciting and shows the demand in the Province for lodges with a purpose and defined mission. I look forward to telling you more as these propositions move to fruition.

Brethren and Companions, we face many challenges but collectively the Province continues to demonstrate its quality and depth and I know is in good heart. Please enjoy this latest edition of edition of The Cambridgeshire Mason

**Bill Dastur**

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY FESTIVAL 2023



## - TWO YEARS OLD THIS MONTH

After two years of fundraising with all your support, Festival 2023 is on track to achieve our goal of £900,000. We have raised this tremendous amount so far thanks to all your very kind support and hard work across the whole Province in lodges and chapters alike.

We would also like to thank all the other Masonic Orders who are kindly supporting our Festival and making significant donations.

As we know the Festival is to raise funds for the MCF. The MCF is our charity supporting masons and their families. Without Festivals such as Festival 2023, the MCF would not be able to provide the support they do to the whole masonic community.

For more information on the MCF, take a look at their impact report <https://impact.mcf.org.uk/>

Mark Shields

### Save the date:

Festival 2023 Banquet  
27th September 2023  
Queens' College, Cambridge

## Rat Race Dirty Weekend

This year, as part of an ongoing mission to get healthier, kick the booze, keep away from the smokes and generally try to make a positive difference to his local community, Brother Nick Knights, of Lodge of Three Grand Principles No. 441, is raising money for Festival 2023, in what, he says, "will probably end up being the most painful challenge of my life: 'The Rat Race Dirty Weekend!'"



At first, it sounds like a trip to Amsterdam, but in actuality, it's: ...THE BIGGEST AND BEST OBSTACLE RACING WEEKEND IN THE WORLD. Ouch!

He added: "In all seriousness, please dig deep. The MCF is there for all of us and does some incredible work. It has helped me out in the past and it is a distinct honour to be able to give something back."

<http://bit.ly/RatRace2023>

## FESTIVAL 2023 FACTS & FIGURES\*

|                    |          |
|--------------------|----------|
| Total received:    | £436,260 |
| Total pledged:     | £202,276 |
| Running total:     | £638,536 |
| Festival Stewards: | 398      |
| Active RPPs:       | 444      |

## HONORIFICS

### Craft Lodges

|            |    |
|------------|----|
| • Platinum | 1  |
| • Gold     | 1  |
| • Silver   | 1  |
| • Bronze   | 10 |

### HRA Chapters

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| • Platinum |   |
| • Gold     | 1 |
| • Silver   | 2 |
| • Bronze   | 8 |

\*as of 28th Feb 2020

## Tour of Cambridgeshire

Brother Andy Murfitt, of Caldwell Lodge No. 3201, plans to run from each Masonic centre within the Province of Cambridgeshire, starting at the Whittlesey centre, then on to Wisbech, March, Chatteris, Ely, Newmarket and finishing at Bateman Street, Cambridge, on Sunday 30th August 2020 - a total of around eighty-six miles!



"If anyone would like to join me in part or parts on foot or cycle - that would be great!," said Andy. "There will be a comfort break at each centre - but the plan is to complete the distance within 24 hours."

"I'm inspired by the work of Masonic Charitable Foundation and wanted to support it by raising money as part of my participation in FEST2023 - Cambridgeshire Festival 2023. Please help me help them by giving whatever you can. The more people that know about Masonic Charitable Foundation, the greater its impact, so please also spread the word by sharing my page with your friends and family. Thank you in advance for your generosity."

<http://bit.ly/AM2023>

## FESTIVAL 2023 REVIEW MEETING

With Festival 2023 coming up to its second birthday, more than 80 Brethren from every lodge in the Province attended a Festival 2023 review meeting held at Bateman Street, Cambridge, on 29th January.

The brethren were treated to a number of presentations including one by our Provincial Grand Master RWBro. William Dastur and two by WBro. Paul Crockett, Fundraising Manager at the Masonic Charitable Foundation (MCF).

The evening consisted of several breakout groups, culminating in a fundraising brainstorming session. The brethren excelled themselves and came up with over 30 fundraising ideas ranging from individual efforts of human endurance all the way through to Provincial initiatives on a grand scale.



Don't forget to get your pin badges and cufflinks from your Charity Steward!



### On the Festival 2023 horizon in 2020:

- Pudding Club Recipe book.  
(Pre-order your very own copy from WBro. Clive Webber)
- Pudding Clubs in a centre near you in 2020.  
(Brace yourself for an eight-course dessert menu!)
- A garden Party at Bateman Street
- Our very own Murder Mystery team.
- An Open Day at Gordon Easton's farm
- WBro. John Surbey rowing from Cambridge to Ely!



# THE MASONIC ORDER OF ATHELSTAN

Some 10 years ago, when Cambridge Mason Alex Allan stood down as the Director of Ceremonies of Nourse Lodge No. 8590, in order to pursue a greater knowledge and understanding of Freemasonry, little did he know where that journey would lead.

Ten years on he is now a Grand Officer in numerous Orders such as the Commemorative Order of St Thomas of Acon, Red Cross of Constantine, Royal and Select Masters, as well as the Masonic Order of Athelstan.

On the 28th September 2019, he was Invested as the Provincial Grand Master for East Anglia in the Masonic Order of Athelstan, at the Provincial Meeting in Bury St Edmunds. With two thriving Courts in Cambridgeshire, at Newmarket and Whittlesey, there has been a long-standing ambition, within the Provincial Executive, to introduce the Order into Cambridge, which is now coming to fruition.

The new Court, to be named the Keith Ansell Court at Grantebrycge, is planned to be consecrated by the Grand Master, at Bateman Street, Cambridge, on Saturday 31st October 2020 and will meet at Bateman Street on the third Friday in February, fourth Tuesday in May and second Tuesday in September. Unusually for a Masonic Order, founders of a Court do not have to already be members of the Order. If you are interested in becoming a founder or learning more, email: [secretary@grantebrycge.co.uk](mailto:secretary@grantebrycge.co.uk).

## ORIGINS OF THE ORDER

The roots of the Masonic Order of Athelstan are founded in East Anglia. The first recorded meeting of the Grand Court was held on the 22nd October 2005, in Newmarket.

That was the day when, not only did the Province of East Anglia come into existence, but also the Primus Court of the Order – units of the Order are called Courts. The Court of Ælfred No. 2 was consecrated. No '1' was retained for a Court to be founded in York, where legend relates that King Athelstan organised what was later described as the first Grand Lodge of England in 926AD.

The Order as a whole celebrates and commemorates this legend annually at York with a special ritual.

Prior to the constitution of the Province of East Anglia and in anticipation of that event, some 17 brethren had been nominated to make up the first teams of Grand Officers, Provincial Grand Masters, Provincial Officers, and Worshipful Brethren. These ceremonies took place between July and October 2005, some at the Newmarket Masonic Centre.



RW Bro. Alexander James Allan KCAG, PGM for the Province of East Anglia

A number of prominent East Anglian freemasons, meeting locally, formed the original caucus of founders. Among these was RWBro. Keith Ansell, a powerhouse who was intimately involved in the conception, development and progression of the Order and became the first Provincial Grand Master of East Anglia and first Grand Chancellor of the Knights of the Scarlet Mantle. This appendant Order of the Masonic Order of Athelstan had been conceived to reward meritorious service by Athelstan brethren and now is known as the Ancient Masonic Order of Alfred the Great. Unfortunately, RWBro. Keith died in 2006. However, the seeds he and others sowed have grown beyond all expectation.

The first Grand Secretary was RWBro. David Buxton, who was eventually succeeded by RWBro. Paul Johnston, now the MW Grand Master.



Above: Newmarket Masonic Hall

Further Courts in the Province of East Anglia were consecrated between 2006–2012 in Lowestoft, King's Lynn, Ipswich, Luton, Diss and Whittlesey, this rapid expansion mirroring the growth of the Order itself.

In 2015, the MW Grand Master of the Order of Athelstan commissioned the first major review of our ritual. Charged to lead this initiative was RW & EmBro. Dr Chris Ansell, Keith's son and a founder of the Court of Ælfred. His efforts resulted in the ritual the Order uses today.

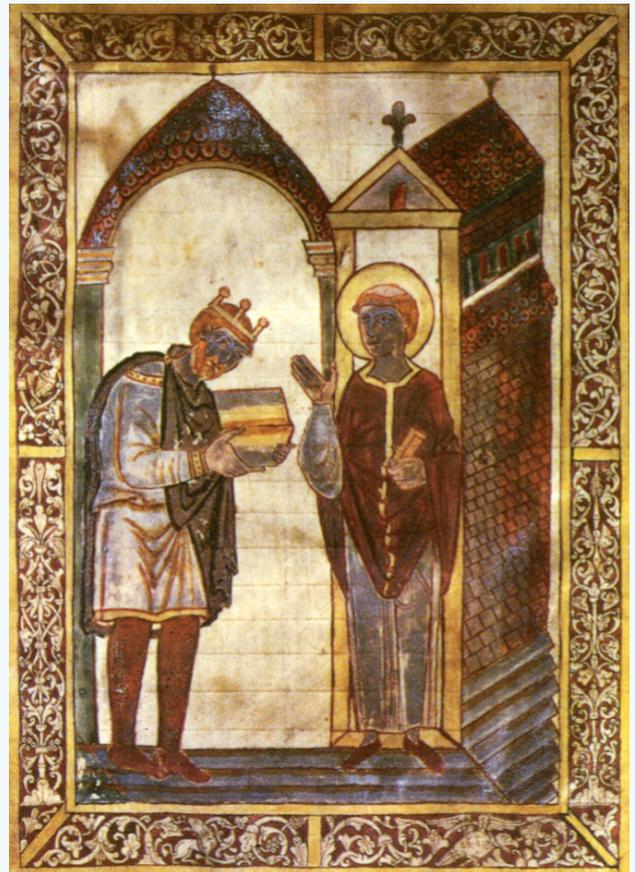
The Order has expanded both at home and abroad, there now being approximately 150 Courts around the world, and the Sovereign Grand Courts of India and Australia have been established. Now with around 4,000 members, the Order has gone from strength to strength.

## WHAT'S IT ABOUT?

The Order is based on the historic records of the life and the legend of King Athelstan, the first king of all the English. The ceremonial draws on the significance of the Ancient Charges in the development of speculative Freemasonry from Anglo Saxon times. Candidates are said to be "Instructed" into the Order, the ceremonial portraying the story of a Master Mason being summoned to York in 926AD at the behest of the king. The Order forms an interesting element of the masonic story from this early period.

In England and Wales, the Order is structured so that its Provinces, wherever possible, reflect and represent ancient kingdoms of the Anglo-Saxon period. Our Provinces do not therefore correlate directly with the English County divisions. The Athelstan Province of East Anglia includes areas of Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire, Bedfordshire and Northamptonshire.

Membership of our Order is strictly Invitational, and members are expected to take a wide and committed interest in all aspects of freemasonry, particularly masonic history.



Æthelstan presenting a book to St Cuthbert, the earliest surviving portrait of an English king.

As a part of its ethos, the Order encourages and prompts its members into further personal study and research, to make daily advancements in masonic knowledge.

The Order is fully committed to supporting the United Grand Lodge of England and it is mandatory for candidates and members to maintain current subscribing membership of both Craft and Royal Arch Chapter Masonry in Lodges and Chapters recognised by the UGLE.

For further details of the Order, visit the Order's website: [www.athelstan.org.uk](http://www.athelstan.org.uk)

East Anglia Provincial website: [www.athelstan-eastanglia.org.uk](http://www.athelstan-eastanglia.org.uk)

### Contact

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WBro. Eddie Moore,

111 Stafford Street, Norwich,

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[provsecretary@athelstan-eastanglia.org.uk](mailto:provsecretary@athelstan-eastanglia.org.uk)

Tel: 01603 662325

**NEXT ISSUE:**  
Spotlight on The  
Royal Order of  
Scotland.

# BUSY SCHEDULE FOR THE LIGHT BLUES



A full programme of events for 2020-21 has been organised by the Cambridgeshire Light Blues Club, which held its annual general meeting on 23rd February at Ely Masonic Hall:

#### **TBA - Private tour of the Fitzwilliam Museum.**

This is a personally guided tour open only to members of the CLB, free of charge.

#### **5th April - Family dog walk and lunch in the sun.**

A chance for the family and your dogs to enjoy a walk, wine, and great company.

#### **17th April - CLB visit to Leicester and Rutland Province.**

Its provincial headquarters and temple are stunning and the food is extremely good.

#### **TBA - Coach trip to France.**

A luxury coach will drive us to France in time for lunch and then a vital restock for your wine collection in time for summer barbecue.

#### **9th August - Provincial Inter Lodge Clay Shoot.**

Win the bragging rights for your lodge and collect your custom trophy, or a wooden spoon.

#### **TBA - Titan Motorsport Open Day.**

An open event of exotic vehicles.

#### **TBA - The Provincial Grand Master's reception for all Master Masons in Cambridgeshire.**

A presentation, talk, Q&A and a chance to speak to the ProvGM in person, free buffet too! To be re-arranged due to other events.

#### **9th September - A day at Great Queen Street, home of UGLE worldwide.**

Quarterly Communications at GQS are a real occasion, as long as you're a Master Mason and member of CLB you can get in and see everything first hand.

#### **TBA - Burns Night 2021.**

Not just another event. This one will provide the usual entertainment with some exciting enhancements.

#### **TBA - Visit to Chelsea Lodge.**

A treat visit to the most entertaining lodge in the country.

#### **TBA - Provincial Panto.**

#### **TBA - Greene King Brewery tour.**

A chance to tour, drink and have lunch.

Other events in discussion are: A visit to Rosslyn Chapel, and a long weekend and lodge visit to Ukraine.

Brethren can keep up to date here:

[www.cambslightblues.org.uk/events](http://www.cambslightblues.org.uk/events)

#### **There are many ways to contact the CLB:**

FaceBook : [www.facebook.com/cambslightblues/](https://www.facebook.com/cambslightblues/)

Twitter: [twitter.com/CambridgeLight](https://twitter.com/CambridgeLight)

Chairman: [Chair@cambslightblues.org.uk](mailto:Chair@cambslightblues.org.uk)

Secretary: [Secretary@cambslightblues.org.uk](mailto:Secretary@cambslightblues.org.uk)

**Tony Orfeo**

## Support for neurodegenerative disease research

The Masonic Charitable Foundation has provided more than £200,000 in funding for research by two PhD students into neurodegenerative disease. It is being carried out by Sarah Shipley and Annabel Cuire at the Department of Clinical Neurosciences at the University of Cambridge.

The donation comes from the MCF's Cambridge Scholarships, facilitated by the Cambridge Trust. Recently, retired doctors Bro. Nigel Williams and WBro. Bharat Khetani, accompanied by Festival 2023 coordinator, WBro. Mark Shields, visited the department to get an insight into the research.

**Peter Sutton**



The new Worshipful Master WBro. Lambert with Provincial Grand Master RWBro. William Dastur and Cambridgeshire guests.

Below: WBro. Sutton and Matt Edge.



## PROVINCIAL DC TAKES CHAIR OF LODGE OF REGULARITY NO. 91

On the Installation Meeting of Lodge of Regularity No.91 on the 27th February 2020, our Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies, WBro. Jonathan Lambert was Installed as its 245th Worshipful Master.

The meeting in Lodge Room No.3 at Great Queen Street was supported and enjoyed by a number of Cambridgeshire brethren, including the Provincial Grand Master, RWBro. William Dastur and Provincial Senior Grand Warden, WBro. K A 'Danny' Ellis.

The Lodge of Regularity No. 91 was established in 1755 and was named in 1768. In 1755 the lodge met at the Swan, New Street, Covent Garden, London, and the lodge now meets at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London.

The Lodge of Regularity is one of the 19 lodges that have the privilege of nominating each year a member for appointment by the Grand Master as a Grand Steward and is therefore known as a Red Apron Lodge. Therefore, Jonathan will be invested as a Grand Steward at the Investitures meeting in April and can expect a busy year during his period of appointment.

Following the meeting the brethren and guests dined in Freemasons Hall in the vestibule in front of the Grand Temple.

Brian Elliott

## Assistance for Acorn Project

A local charity offering therapeutic help to children who have experienced trauma and stress received financial assistance from Alma Mater Lodge No. 1492.

The donation of £500, inclusive of matched funding from the City and University Masonic Charitable Trust, went to The Acorn Project and was made by WBro. Peter Sutton, treasurer of the Lodge, to Matt Edge, the charity's chief operating officer.

The charity offers therapeutic help to children and young persons, within the age range of five to 18, who have experienced trauma or stress generally within the family environment

These symptoms will show themselves when a child starts school and will be recognised by staff in the school who are specially trained. Absence from school, behavioural problems or general distress will indicate that the child is having problems within the family. This can be caused by domestic abuse and mental or physical cruelty.

The charity undertakes sessions, usually on school premises, working with the family to identify the cause of the trauma and improve the situation. The charity is seeing an increasing number of cases requiring help at ever earlier ages. Funding is a restriction on the number of families that can be helped. The cost of a year's work can be £900. The Alma Mater donation will be used to assist a family where a child is experiencing trauma or stress.

Peter Sutton

## New plan to retain members

As part of the Membership Pathway project, the Province will now conduct exit interviews with all those wishing to resign from a Lodge or the Craft.

VWBro. Pat Kilby, who heads the project, has asked WBro. Harry Rooke to institute a process to arrange an interview with those resigning from the Craft where appropriate.

The objectives are to gain an insight into the causes of resignation and, where possible, address these issues and retain the Mason either in his own Lodge, another Lodge in the Province, or facilitate his engagement with another Province.

A recent change to Rule 183 Book of Constitutions permits a Lodge to delay a resignation by 60 days (previously 21), which will provide time to enact a process and possibly retain the Brother in Masonry. If, however, the resignation later becomes effective, the resignation date remains the date the Lodge secretary first received it, so there is no fear of additional cost to the Lodge.

Lodge secretaries have the responsibility to verbally notify the Lodge of his receipt of a resignation at the next regular meeting and, unless a vote to the contrary takes place, the announcement is an acceptance of that resignation. However, the Lodge may vote that the acceptance is delayed by 60 days. A simple majority of those present and voting by a show of hands is sufficient. The process is identical for a member who announces his resignation in open Lodge.

The ProvGM wants this process to become the standard procedure in every Lodge and requests all Cambridgeshire Lodges make arrangements to bring this about.

In order to facilitate the migration process, Lodge secretaries must notify the Provincial Registrar by email and the Lodge Almoner as soon as a member notifies his resignation. It is important that this notification of resignation takes place as soon as possible because it may be possible to get it withdrawn before the announcement and vote in open Lodge takes place.

The Membership Migration Officer, WBro. Rooke, will then engage with the Provincial Almoner and arrange an exit interview by one of his team (WBros. Mike Fox, Bob Wordsworth and Bharat Khetani) if appropriate. Secretaries will be informed of the outcome.

Harry Rooke



## Kynaston Lodge celebrates 80th birthday

At its Installation Meeting on 24th October, Kynaston Lodge celebrated 80 years of continuous masonic working with 81 members and guests in attendance, including an official visit of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, VWBro. Pat Kilby.

The meeting witnessed the Installing Master, WBro. Ted Ridgway Watt install Bro. John Michael Creek as his successor as Worshipful Master in an exemplary manner.

After the Lodge was closed, 21 of the 25 subscribing Past Masters had a celebratory photograph taken with the new Worshipful Master. Unfortunately, due to health issues the senior Past Master, WBro. Roy Abraham, PJGD, who was WM in 1969, was unable to attend.

Kynaston Lodge continues to maintain a tradition, started shortly after the Consecration meeting of the 26th October 1939, of having a photograph of every Lodge Master. The Lodge currently has three albums of photographs, which have been digitally scanned and made available for all members to view on the Kynaston Lodge website. During the Festive Board a computer displayed a slideshow of all those photographs.

Brian Elliott



Past Masters of Kynaston Lodge (left to right), **front row:** WBros. AFJ Compton (1997), BD Fenton (1992), WM Parker (1986), DA Osborne (1978), JM Creek (2019), TI Peak (1984), BP Stops (1989) and BJ Elliott (1996).

**Middle row:** WBros. DW Parker (2007), JHL Burt (2005), PA Langran (2003), PJ Henry (1999), TA Smith (2002), RM Wordsworth (2006), JR Bailey (2008), and MP Crutchley (1998).

**Back row:** WBros. E Ridgway Watt (2018), BM Williams (2012), AC Fordham (2009, 2015), PJ Brindle (2010), LT Wilson (2016), SC Rawlinson (2017).

**Picture:** Tim Smith

## Kynaston Lodge donates to Prader-Willi care home

From money raised at its Christmas Festival Dinner in December 2019, Kynaston Lodge No. 5810 presented a cheque for £250 to the Corunna Close Residential Care Home in St Neots, which cares for patients suffering Prader-Willi Syndrome.

PWS is a rare genetic disorder that affects both males and females from birth and throughout their lives. It causes low muscle tone with consequent motor developmental delays, a mild to moderate learning difficulty, incomplete sexual development, and emotional and social immaturity, which can lead to challenging behaviour.

During childhood, an overwhelming and insatiable chronic appetite usually develops which, without rigorous food management and exercise regimes, leads to food seeking, stealing and life-threatening obesity. PWS occurs randomly in about 1:22,000 births and it is estimated that there are about 2,000 people living with PWS in the UK.

Claire Creek, wife of Worshipful Master WBro. John Creek, was delighted to receive the support of the Lodge members and partners. Claire, who is the care centre manager, said: "At Corunna my aim is to make every moment count, improve quality of life and set achievable goals, providing a meaningful future".

The four residents require 24/7 supervision with every aspect of daily living. Due to the complexity of the condition it is little understood and as a consequence, the residents can be marginalised in society due to the physically challenging behaviour displayed. PWS affects every moment of every day – constant hunger pains combined with impaired cognitive ability, social awkwardness and a vulnerability that requires one-to-one staffing at all times.

Claire, who has a team of 13 staff, added: "It's the donations and fundraising which help improve their lives. HFT, a national charity providing services for people with learning disabilities, is always so grateful for everyone's kindness."



Claire Creek, residential care manager; David Cottom, resident; Haidee Young, regional manager, and Honora Smith, HFT fundraising manager.

## Classic car event

Each year Helmingham Hall in Suffolk hosts an event called Helmingham Festival of Classic Cars & Sports Cars, and in 2020 this event will be held on 2nd August.

There will be a dedicated area for those who have not only a classic car but who are car enthusiasts. Last year there were more than 1,000 exhibiting cars and over 7,000 people attending, with £6,000 raised for EACH.

"I am particularly keen to make this an East Anglian event to include all four Provinces," said Square Wheels member Mike Rumsey.

Email Mike ([mje.rumsey@talk21.com](mailto:mje.rumsey@talk21.com)) to indicate your interest.

Mike Rumsey

**smile.amazon.co.uk**

## Use Amazon Smile and support Festival 2023

If you are purchasing on Amazon, did you know that Amazon will donate to Cambridgeshire Masonic Benevolent Association (Festival 2023) at no cost to you?

Amazon has a charity website named Amazon Smile, which donates 0.5 per cent net of any purchase you make on Amazon. To support CMBA (Festival 2023) you just need to click on the link below before making your purchase:-

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1056195-0>

You will then see "Supporting: Province of Cambridgeshire Masonic Benevolent Association".

You can also find the link on the left-hand menu of the Provincial website [www.pgcambs.org.uk](http://www.pgcambs.org.uk).

There is no additional cost to you in buying goods through Amazon Smile.

David Cameron

### Charity support from Farmers' Lodge

The Fenland Farmers Lodge No. 9933 presented cheques for a total of £1,550 to good causes - £650 to the Alan Hudson Day Treatment Centre in Wisbech, £450 to the Teddies for Loving Care scheme and £450 to CPSL Mind.

Based at the North Cambs Hospital in Wisbech, the Alan Hudson centre supports people who are living with life-limiting illness. This service is provided free of charge to patients, provides day therapy, treatment and clinical days, including haematology and oncology work, complementary and diversional therapies, bereavement and support services.

This money was raised during 2019 during WBro. David Coupland's year as Worshipful Master.

The second cheque, also from WBro. Coupland's year was presented to WBro. Andrew Borland, treasurer of the Province of Cambridgeshire Masonic Benevolent Association. The money will go to Teddies for Loving Care, which provide cuddly bears to be given to young children at Accident and Emergency units. The bears are used to calm children, reward them for being brave and sometimes used to demonstrate procedures. Children can take them home.

The third donation went to Cambridgeshire, Peterborough and South Lincolnshire Mind (CPSL Mind), which supports local people in their recovery from mental health issues, promotes wellbeing and campaigns against stigma and discrimination. It believes no-one should face a mental health problem alone. It is also committed to tackling stigma and raising awareness of the need for everyone to look after their mental wellbeing.

WBro. David Coupland, Immediate Past Master, said: "Anyone can struggle with their mental health, but we know that farmers are particularly high risk due to the stresses and uncertainty involved with the job. We are therefore delighted to be supporting our local mental health charity and we hope our contribution will help people get the support they need."

Zoe Doherty, fundraiser for CPSL Mind, added: "We were so pleased to receive this donation. In 2018/19 we provided more than 21,400 hours of one-to-one support locally, including more than 6,800 hours of talking therapies. Demand for our services remains high and this donation will enable us to help even more people in need of mental health support."

David Watson



WBro. David Watson, Charity Steward, Zoe Doherty, of CPSL Mind, and WBro. Coupland.



Staff from Alan Hudson Day Treatment Centre receive the cheque from WBro. Coupland.



WBro. Coupland hands over the £450 cheque to WBro. Borland.

## Help for children with mental or emotional health problems

Hundreds of children with mental or emotional health issues will receive the therapy they need, thanks to a £15,000 grant from Cambridgeshire Freemasons to the charity, Blue Smile.

The charity works with children between three and 13 who may experience difficulties such as anxiety, self-harm or obsessive-compulsive behaviours. They are given a weekly session with an expert therapist, based on arts and play, providing support for each child for as long as they need it. During term time, Blue Smile helps around 200 children every week

In Cambridgeshire roughly one in eight children have a diagnosable mental health condition, which equates to each class in a Cambridgeshire school having three affected children. The county has an estimated 13,900 children and young people under the age of 16 with mental health issues, which is the highest in the East of England.

Blue Smile aims to intervene when a child has emerging mental health difficulties, particularly those who have suffered trauma such as abuse, bereavement or domestic violence. Through this, they aim to prevent problems worsening, and protect each child's ability to stay in school and participate fully in school life. Half of all lifetime mental health problems emerge by the age of 14.

The grant from Cambridgeshire Freemasons comes through the Masonic Charitable Foundation.

Jess Manley, Charity Director of Blue Smile said: "We're very grateful to Cambridgeshire Freemasons for their generous grant, which will help us to offer support to hundreds of children every week during term time. Often people don't realise the scale of this issue, with, on average, three children in every class being affected by mental health difficulties."

Michael Hinton



Pat Kilby with Jess Manly and Lucy Jones from Blue Smile, and Mike Harrison, head teacher of St Andrew's Cof E Primary School



Picture: The three Principals with Professor Coles.

## Companions hear about pioneering research

After its early 2020 meeting at March, companions and visitors at Cambridgeshire First Principals' Chapter No. 7429, heard an enthralling talk by the Rev Prof Alastair Coles on repairing the brain from Multiple Sclerosis.

Prof Coles is a neuroscientist and consultant at Addenbrooke's Hospital, and Cambridge University Medical School. He is leading a team carrying out ground-breaking research into finding a cure for MS. Having already developed a way to stop MS developing, he and his team are turning to finding a cure which is now at the very early clinical trial stage which he hopes will be positive.

The work has received a grant from the Masonic Charitable Foundation. His talk explained in clear terms his work and the progress being made, as well as the many hurdles he is overcoming. This was amply evinced by the many questions after his talk, which showed that all present had fully understood the illness and the challenges in finding a cure.

At the dinner afterwards, the Grand Superintendent presented him with cheques totalling £1,000 to support his work. His work over the last few years has been enhanced by an early grant of £100,000 from the Grand Charity. Prof Coles is also a non-stipendiary priest in the Church of England.

Edmund Brookes



## Boost for Ely's Poppy Appeal

Masons from Ely donated £1,140 to the City of Ely Branch of the Royal British Legion for the annual Poppy Appeal.

The presentation was made when the branch held its annual Remembrance Dinner at Ely Masonic Hall on 23rd November. WBro. John Sinclair, charity steward of Descensus Aquarum Lodge, No. 8655, represented the four Ely Lodges and presented cheques to the value of £1,120 to Les Wilson, organiser of the Ely's Poppy Appeal.

John Sinclair

## Elafonisos raffle fund goes to Province's Festival 2023

At the regular meeting of Kynaston Lodge No. 5810 on 23rd January, the Worshipful Master, WBro. John Creek, was delighted to present two cheques to the Provincial Grand Charity Steward, WBro. Paul Gillingwater.

The first was an interim cheque for £2,000 resulting from the sale of raffle tickets from the Elafonisos raffle that the Lodge initiated and was adopted across the Province. The total was an interim contribution as some remains to be collected. The final total of the raffle ticket sales is expected to be in excess of £3,500.

The raffle was the brainchild of Bro. George Kontakos, the Lodge's Junior Deacon, whose family own a hotel on the Greek island of Elafonisos, just off the southern tip of Greece. The first prize of a one-week stay for two at the hotel, including £300 towards travel costs, was won by WBro. Jon Cooper, of Descensus Aquarum Lodge No.8655.

The second cheque was for £210, resulting from the sale of a photograph of the subscribing Past Masters taken on the Lodge's 80th anniversary celebration on 24th October 2019.

Brian Elliott



WBro. John Creek presents cheques for Festival 2023 to Provincial Grand Charity Steward, WBro. Paul Gillingwater.



David Bays, Wendy Foot and Ed Mann.

## Help for well being centre

Wisbech Freemasons have donated £500 to the Robert Foot Leukaemia Fund. The money will be used to help Shouldham Ward at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in King's Lynn, where money is being raised to set up a Well Being Centre for post-cancer patients.

This centre is in response to patient's requests for continuing advice and contact with the hospital in that vulnerable period when treatment has concluded but normal life has yet to resume. The Robert Foot Leukaemia Fund will assist by purchasing the extras not provided by the NHS, which will make the Centre more comfortable and attractive.

The cheque was presented to RFLF trustee, Wendy Foot, by WBro. David Bays, chairman of the Wisbech Masonic Benevolent Fund, and WBro. Edward Mann, representing the Wisbech Joint Lodges Social Committee.

Bob Kidger



WBro. Brennan hands over the cheque to Dr Alison Graham and Michelle Lay.

## Helping to provide counselling for the young

A charity providing counselling for young people has benefitted from a £400 donation from the Province's Charity for Care and Relief.

The Young Peoples Counselling Service (YPCS) has offered counselling for 11 to 16 year-olds over the last 25 years in the Whittlesey and Ramsey areas. It currently setting up a new centre in Wisbech, where they have identified a need and lack of accessible mental health support

On behalf of the Charity for Care & Relief, the Provincial Grand Almoner, WBro. George Brennan presented a cheque for £400 to Dr Alison Graham, chair of the charity and a local GP, and Michelle Lay, vice-chair and lead therapist of YPCS.

The donation will help the charity provide a full course of counselling by its highly qualified therapists to a young person.

Alan De Laune

## Help for the homeless

A charity providing overnight accommodation for the homeless in local churches has received £1,000 from Cambridgeshire Freemasons.

First, Thirkill Lodge No. 7333 raised £250 from a raffle in the lodge, received matched funding by the City and University of Cambridge Masonic Charitable Foundation, to make £500. Finally another £500 was added by the Province's Charity for Care and Relief.

Two cheques for £500 were handed over to Stephen Barwise, founder of Cambridge Churches Homeless Project (CCHP) – one by Thirkill's Worshipful Master, WBro. Adrian Peters, and Junior Warden, Bro. Eddie Osborne, and the second by WBro. Peters and Provincial Grand Almoner, WBro. George Brennan.

CCHP is a voluntary organisation providing overnight accommodation for the homeless in local churches and is self-funded from December to March every night.

Adrian Peters



WBro. Adrian Peters and Bro. Eddie Osborne hand over a £500 cheque to Stephen Barwise.



Stephen Barwise receives another £500 from WBro. Adrian Peters and WBro. George Brennan.



Bro. Andrew Humphrey (left) and WBro. Jeremy Pallant (right) present the cheque to scheme advisor Andy Cleathero.

## Safety scheme support at Wisbech

A scheme giving advice on home and personal security has received a £1,000 donation from Wisbech's Freemasons.

The Bobby Scheme began 20 years ago, and its team has visited more than 30,000 homes of elderly, vulnerable or domestic abuse victims. Working closely with the Police, the team fits security devices and alarms, give advice on securing homes and staying safe, as well as giving security advice on how to react to bogus callers and doorstep scammers. They also advise on how to stay safe away from the home, online or how to spot a scam.

The service is aimed at victims of crime aged 60 and over, as well as domestic abuse victims and people who feel at risk who are aged 65 and over, or disabled residents. The same service is offered to non-victims for a small donation.

Commenting on the donation from the Wisbech Masonic Benevolent Fund, team manager, Perri Luparia, said that, although it receives some funding from the local authority, it was very reliant on charitable donations.

Bob Kidger



WBro. Adrian Peters receives the cheque from the ProvGM

## Light Blues start Buddy Scheme

A Buddy Scheme has been launched by the Cambridgeshire Light Blues to encourage its members to visit other lodges.

The scheme, based on an idea by Bro. Graham Clapperton, Junior Warden of Stone Cross Lodge No. 6704, is an initiative to encourage new masons to visit other lodges and other masonic centres in the Province of Cambridgeshire in order to observe other candidates undertaking initiations.

It can also be used for new Fellowcrafts or Master Masons to attend other Passings and Raisings. Hopefully, it will encourage new friendships, and help foster better understanding of Freemasonry.

A candidate can attend on his own - or with other members of his lodge. The Provincial Grand Master, RWBro. William Dastur, made a donation to WBro. Adrian Peters, of Thirkill Lodge No. 7333, to kick-start the Buddy Scheme.

It is hoped that Buddies will derive more from their freemasonry, and this will help retain members and even encourage other brethren to perhaps re-ignite their interest in Freemasonry.

Adrian Peters



WBro. David Smith presents the cheque to Phillip Burr.

## Nourse and Scouts help the homeless

Efforts by Shelford and Stapleford Scouts to raise money for a charity supporting the homeless in Cambridge received a boost from Nourse Lodge No. 8590.

Lodge Almoner, WBro. David Smith presented a cheque for £125 to Scout leader Phillip Burr in November. It was in response to their efforts to raise money for Winter Comfort, which helps the homeless. It was handed over just before the Scouts slept out rough on 13th December in a bid to raise as sponsorship money for their worthy cause.

The money was raised by an auction at Nourse Lodge's Installation meeting held on 14th November at Freemasons' Hall, Cambridge.

Winter Comfort is a day centre, open seven days a week, creating opportunities all year round for homeless individuals. For more than 28 years, Winter comfort has supported people who are homeless or at risk of losing their home in Cambridge.

David Smith

## Prizes for Brother's wine

A winegrowing member of Granta Lodge No. 6179 has been awarded an outstanding category by 'Decanter' wine and lifestyle magazine.

WBro. Jan Mirkowski, who lives in Henley-on-Thames, where he has 12000 rootstocks of vines over three hectares, was the sole winner in a category featuring 53 sparkling wines costing under £50.

It was Jan's Fairmile Vineyard's first release and beat highly distinguished and long-established vineyards. It follows a gold medallion award for the vineyard's rosé, and a bronze for its classic cuvée within a month of launch, both from the Thames & Chiltern Vineyard Association.

For more information and to see the online shop, visit:

[www.fairmilevineyard.co.uk](http://www.fairmilevineyard.co.uk)

Steve Greig



WBro. Jon Cooper presents the cheque to Mrs Angela Frow.

## Descensus Aquarum Lodge donates to Witchford Women's Institute

Following a request for support from Witchford Women's Institute, Descensus Aquarum Lodge No. 8655 helped out with a cheque for £400.

The WI branch was struggling to cover the hire of the hall, and guest speakers' expenses. The donation consisted of £200 from the Lodge, with matched funding from The City & University of Cambridge Masonic Charity Trust, enabling the donation to be £400.

The cheque was presented by the Lodge's Worshipful Master, WBro. Jon Cooper to Mrs. Angela Frow at the WI's meeting on 15th October. The money will help its members continue their valuable contribution to the local community.

Supporting local causes is very important to the members of Descensus Aquarum Lodge, of which this is a prime example Masonry at the heart of the community.

John Sinclair

## Road Victims Trust & Magpas aided by Scientific Lodge

Social events and first aid courses helped Scientific Lodge No.88 raise £1,100 for road traffic victims. Worshipful Master, WBro. Tony Barrios presented the donation at a remembrance service for road traffic victims held at St Mary's Church, Cambridge.

WBro. Barrios, who worked in the road policing unit for Cambridgeshire Police and as a family liaison officer, handed over the cheque to Katie Holmes, an ambassador for the Road Traffic Victims Trust.

Continuing the theme, WBro. Barrios presented a £750 donation to Magpas air ambulance service during a visit to its base at RAF Wyton. He said: "It's a charity dear to my heart, having worked with so many of their wonderful staff in the '80s and '90s."

Peter Sutton



Presentation (left to right) - WBros. Grevatt and Chandler receive the cheque from WBro. Khetani.

## Defibrillator funding for village from Fenland Farmers' Lodge

Residents of a Fenland village will benefit from the installation of an emergency defibrillator, thanks to support from local Freemasons.

WBro. Dr Bharat Khetani, who was Master of Fenland Farmers' Lodge No. 9933 in 2017/18, presented a cheque for £300 from his Master's list. The donation will be used towards the installation of an emergency defibrillator on the outside wall of the Parson Drive Surgery.

The presentation took place at Wisbech Masonic Rooms, when WBro. Khetani handed over the cheque to WBro. John Grevatt, of Gild of Holy Trinity Lodge No. 6125, who is vice-chair of Parson Drove Surgery Patient Group, and WBro. Dr. Andrew Chandler, of Lodge of United Good Fellowship No.809 and senior GP partner at the surgery.

**John Grevatt**

## Donations to Fenland services

Local services in Fenland benefitted from cheques presented by Stone Cross Lodge No. 6704 in conjunction with the matched funding scheme run by the City and University of Cambridge Masonic Charitable Trust.

The Lodge, based in March, presented cheques for £250 each to Eddie's and Breathe Easy Fenland. Eddie's is an operating division of The Edmund Trust, which provides services in Cambridgeshire for children, young people and adults with learning disabilities, and their families and carers. Breathe Easy Fenland (British Lung Foundation) is a local support group for anyone affected by lung disease, including their carers, friends and family.

**Cliff Brown**

## Nurse aid for mobility charity

Fundraising efforts by Nourse Lodge No. 8590 raised £500 for a charity to assist those with reduced mobility.

Pos+Abilty is a local charity set up in 2011 to assist people living with reduced mobility, whether stroke, Parkinson's, muscular dystrophy or multiple sclerosis and other long-term conditions. It serves a large part of Cambridgeshire and holds regular group sessions in Ely, Histon, Littleport, Soham, and Burwell

WBro. David Smith, Almoner, and WBro. Bob Sculthorpe, Mentor, attended the Ely Community Centre and sat in on a session of chair-based activities that provides a welcome social for those in need and respite for their carers. The money was raised by the Lodge at various activities, including an auction for a meal catering for up to ten to be cooked by a renowned local game chef, organised by WBro. Stephen Teverson.

**Bob Sculthorpe**



WBros. Steve Napier and Martin Holmes present the £500 cheque to Michelle Knight.

## Day Centre benefits from Wisbech Freemasons

A day treatment centre providing care and support for patients with advanced serious illness or life-limiting conditions has been supported by Wisbech Freemasons.

WBro. Martin Holmes and WBro. Steve Napier, representing the Wisbech Masonic Benevolent Fund, presented a cheque for £500 to Michelle Knight, matron for the Alan Hudson Day Treatment Centre. Together with an earlier cheque for £450, presented by WBro. Jeremy Pallant, of the Gild of Holy Trinity Lodge No. 6125, from the proceeds of his Ladies Festival, amounted to a very much appreciated total of £950.

The Treatment Centre, which is an Arthur Rank Hospice Charity service based at the North Cambs Hospital in Wisbech, provides helps more than 400 patients a year.

**Bob Kidger**

### Seating sponsorship for the Angles Theatre

The Angles Theatre in Wisbech is a historic Georgian Grade 2 listed building, which is one of the oldest theatres in England with a very colourful and chequered history, having seen many changes since being built almost 230 years ago.

The theatre is currently seeking sponsorship for the restoration of its 112 seats in the auditorium. Being a very close neighbour of the Masonic Centre in Wisbech, the brethren of the Gild of Holy Trinity Lodge No. 6125 were keen to support the appeal.

The lodge's Worshipful Master, WBro. Alan Rust and Bro. Peter Human, presented a cheque for £540, which included £250 matched funding from the City & University of Cambridge Masonic Charitable Trust, for the refurbishment of three seats to Angela Nixon, chair of the Angles Theatre Trustees and trustee Aidan Cooper.

Commenting on behalf of the Trustees, Angela Nixon said that they were very grateful to the Freemasons for their generosity which was well received and very much appreciated.

Bob Kidger



Bro Peter Human, Angela Nixon, Aidan Cooper and WBro. Alan Rust.

### Alma Mater Conclave supports Festival 2023

Festival 2023 has received a donation of £750 from the members of Alma Mater Conclave No. 74 of the Order of the Secret Monitor (OSM).

The OSM, or Brotherhood of David and Jonathan, is a Masonic Order administered from Mark Masons' Hall in London. The current Head of the Order in the UK is Most Worthy Brother Andrew Sweeney. The ritual is based on the Old Testament story of the close friendship between David and Jonathan.

Being a Master Mason is the only qualification required to be inducted into the Order.

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Alma Mater Conclave OSM, which meets at Bateman Street, Cambridge, on three Saturday afternoons each year (3rd Saturday in January & April; 2nd Saturday in October - lunch precedes the meetings which always finish by 4pm) should contact the secretary, John Webster, using the email: [johnwebster35@hotmail.com](mailto:johnwebster35@hotmail.com)

Keith Huddlestone



#### Editorial Board

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Design by Bro. Nick Knights.

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