



Setting a Grand example for Cambridgeshire's Festival 2023

Deputy Grand Master Jonathan Spence put his best foot forward at the Installation of Alma Mater Lodge No. 1492. As a member of the Lodge, R.W. Bro J. Spence, together with the new Worshipful Master, W. Bro Razvan-Loan Dinita and Installing Master W. Bro David Patterson showed off their new socks and matching bow ties, demonstrating their support for Cambridgeshire's Festival 2023 in aid of the Masonic Charitable Foundation.

The bow ties and socks, as well as pocket squares and regular ties, are selling very quickly under the supervision of Provincial Grand Charity Steward David Cameron and make the ideal Cambridge Blue gift for any Lodge member. Contact your Lodge's Charity Steward to get yours.



Moira said We are so grateful to receive this wonderful gift of kindness. Without the support of people donating, we would not be able to do the work we do. Receiving gifts like this really does help save lives and make the Christmas period just that little extra special for those who have no one, Thank you for thinking of us.

A Christmas Gift for the Ferry Project

Wisbech Freemasons donate £500 to the Ferry Project based in Wisbech. The Ferry Project is an award-winning social enterprise and registered charity, established in 1998, which helps homeless people in Fenland. The Ferry Project currently provides up to fifty bed spaces in Wisbech and engages with over three hundred clients a year. Pictured left is Moira Pollard, the Operations Manager for the Ferry Project, receiving a cheque for £500 from W. Bro Andrew Pallant who presented it on behalf of the Freemasons in Wisbech.

W Bro. Pallant responded saying that the Freemasons in Wisbech were very pleased to support Moira and her team at the Ferry Project, especially at this time of year.



A lucky Break for children in care

Children on the edge of care, in care and leaving care across East Anglia will be getting help and support with practical problems, social isolation and mental health, thanks to a grant of £21,500 from Cambridgeshire Freemasons to Break, who work to remove all limits on what care – experienced children and young people can achieve. Read more online at: <https://www.cambridgeshirefreemasons.org.uk>

Ben hits the ground running

At his first regular meeting as the newly installed Worshipful Master of Nourse Lodge 8590 W. Bro Ben Sandle-Brownlie ensured his Lodge kept up a cracking pace in their quest to convert their Bronze Award status to Silver Award status in support of Festival 2023.

After leading his team in conducting an impeccable initiation of new Nourseman Bro Stephen Snow, Ben had much pleasure in presenting a cheque for £1000 to our Provincial Grand Master in support of Festival 2023.

The funds came from the Nourse Lodge Installation meeting in November and the Christmas meeting in December, both of which were happy occasions and well attended by members and guests alike, rounded up from funds held by the Lodge for this purpose.



Ben is pictured presenting a large Lodge cheque for £1,000 to our Provincial Grand Master, R.W. Bro W.C.M. Dastur who extended his warm thanks to Ben and Nourse Lodge.



Thank you

Hello,

My name is Emily and I work for East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH). I am just getting in touch to thank you for the recent donation EACH Milton received from the Masonic Charitable Foundation! I understand that members of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cambridgeshire (and other local Lodges) make the MCF's grants possible, and I wanted to thank you for your continued generosity. With kind regards and best wishes for the festive season.

Emily

Freemasons Deliver Christmas Cheer

Wisbech Freemasons supported by the Charity for Care and Relief and the Masonic Charitable Foundation donate £1000 to the Rosmini Centre Wisbech Foodbank.

Working with Local Schools, Health Care Providers, Children and Family Centres, the Rosmini Centre Wisbech provides food to families who are experiencing difficult times in their lives.

It collects and redistributes approximately 1,200 kilos of food that would have otherwise gone to landfill and has 40-50 people collecting food on a daily basis to provide around 250 food parcels each month.

The Centre also runs a number of activities and events to support those in need and provides Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) to members of the local communities; this has become particularly important during the recent Covid pandemic became particularly important, as it was the only Community Building in Wisbech to have remained open throughout that period.



Anita Grodkiewicz MBE the Centre Manager for the Rosmini Centre Wisbech said

We are delighted to receive this donation that will enable us to ensure that all our families receive extra food for the festive period. Christmas can be a very stressful time of year for some of our families and a bumper food parcel can really make a difference thank you for your support.

Pictured with some of the food that has recently been donated, is Isabella Alecock one of the Centre's Trustees with W. Bros. Martin Holmes and Bob Kidger who said that they were very pleased to be making the donation on behalf of the Freemasons, to support the very important work and services that the Trustees and Anita and her team were delivering to the local community in these very challenging times.

Three Grand Principles – Ancient & Modern!

After a long period of consultation the Lodge of Three Grand Principles No. 441 has voted to move its Installation meeting from January to February, to cease having a January meeting altogether and to resurrect its May meeting. The process started when a number of the floor officers were reporting that having an Installation meeting on the first working day back after the Christmas and New Year was very difficult for them; no longer are businesses closed over the festive period and for many it is their busiest time of the year.



The times and dates on which a Lodge meets can be part of its individuality and personality, but the world in which we operate is an ever-changing environment, so what may have worked well for small business owners 100 years ago may not work so well today. This was recognised by the Brethren and, although change does not always come naturally in Freemasonry (especially in a Lodge that is 185 years old), it was agreed that the Lodge would embrace the challenges of a changing society, and be fit for the future while respecting the traditions of the past.

Vice Patron of the MCF!

Congratulations to that modest member of Scientific Lodge No. 88 who has been recognised as a Vice Patron of the Masonic Charitable Foundation for the support he has given. He has received a certificate signed by Les Hutchinson, CEO.



Nourse Lodge Initiation

Many Brethren wondered what post Pandemic Freemasonry would be like.

Members of Nourse Lodge present in good number at their December meeting went home confident of a very bright future as an open egalitarian and inclusive institution.

The meeting saw newly Installed Master W. Bro Benedict Sandle-Brownlie lead from the front in delivering a first-class ceremony initiating Mr Stephen Snow, a fine addition to the Lodge. Nourse members were also delighted to host members of their Mother Lodge Kynaston, led by their newly Installed Master W Bro Richard Brindle, on their annual exchange visit.

Also present was ProvGM, R.W. Bro W.C.M. Dastur who spent the evening alongside the six Apprentices present and presented Bro. Snow with a pair of smart Provincial socks to go with the new Provincial Tie the Lodge gave him.



Pictured L to R.

Bro Jacob Baldwin and Bro Diego Balassini (of INUL); Bro Stephen Snow (newly initiated); ProvGM; WM Ben Sandle-Brownlie; Bro Neil Hubbard; Bro Michael Neave (Granta Lodge) and Bro Luke Taylor (The Ephraimites).

Festival 2023 – what a difference a Year can Make!

This past twelve months has reminded us all, the demands on Charity and in particular the Masonic Charitable Foundation (MCF) ‘our own Freemasons’ Charity, does not abate.

Throughout this Pandemic, our Provincial Charity, Care and Relief with the assistance of the MCF, have channeled, vital support and aid to where it has been needed most within our Province.

The ‘Festival System’ in Freemasonry is the feeder of funds into the MCF to enable it to function and distribute accordingly, hence the importance of our **Festival 2023 Appeal** launched by the Provincial Grand Master in March 2018 with the aim of providing a contribution of **£900,000 to the MCF.**

We all look forward to 2022, with the prospect of enjoying our Freemasonry in a more fuller sense, however it is important to reflect on our Festival journey achievements during the past twelve months in times of the unprecedented difficulties, when members of Lodges and Chapters have been meeting only with average attendances of 30% in comparison to pre Covid 19 lockdown. The lack of members meeting the physical Alms collection and participation in raffles have impacted on income into the festival.

With the Provincial Grand Masters’ recent ‘Soft’ Relaunch of Festival 2023 Appeal at the meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge, marked with ‘Cambridge Blue’ Provincial Merchandise, In true ‘Cambridgeshire Spirit’, members, Lodges and Chapters have rallied around in donating in excess **£ 122,515.59 towards the Festival 2023 during 2021**

Well done! And THANK YOU!

The importance of active Rpp’s Regular Payment promises or Direct debit income during 2021 in the midst of the pandemic, (providing almost 50%) of the yearly income is clearly illustrated in these figures, It demonstrates also the importance for Lodges and Chapters to pay over available funds as early as possible to gain Notional interest.** £35,193.47 is not an insignificant sum !!

| Item | Totals end November 2021 | Totals end November 2020 | Totals for year 2021 |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Total Received Excl. Tax | £ 579,160.45 | £ 469,778.24 | £ 109,382.21 |
| Total Gift Aid Tax Re-claimed | £ 68,354.93 | £ 55,221.55 | £ 13,133.38 |
| Total collected Incl Ga Tax | £ 647,515.38 | £ 524,999.79 | £ 122,515.59 |
| | | | |
| Notional Interest ** | £ 35,193.47 | £ 22,163.96 | £ 13,029.51 |
| | | | |
| Total Received from Rpp's. Excl. GA | £ 180,426.49 | £ 132,119.02 | £ 48,307.47 |
| Total Gift Aid Tax Re-claimed on Rpp's | £ 42,156.92 | £ 31,375.81 | £ 10,781.11 |
| Totals from RPP's. GA Tax Tax | £ 222,583.41 | £ 163,494.83 | £ 59,088.58 |

Festival Honorifics

The efforts of our Lodges and Chapters during the past 12 months has seen a hive of activity on the Festival 'Gong' system! In November 2021 we now have.

| Levels | Bronze | Silver | Gold | Platinum |
|----------|--------|--------|------|----------|
| Lodges | 11 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| Chapters | 5 | 3 | 5 | 1 |

Five Lodges entered the Bronze level, 3 lodges were raised to Silver, and 1 passed to Gold. There were similar movements in Chapters with all 14 chapters having achieved a level.

Finally, in wishing you all a happy and healthy 2022, may I invite you to consider one more **New Year resolution!** Review your current 'rpp' or take out a new one *, Many of those taken out at the start of the festival, if not already expired, may well do so during 2022!

*Just scan the QR code to arrive at the 'set up an Rpp page!

Paul Gillingwater PAGDC
Festival 2023 Chairman



A Masonic A-Z

If you keep an eye on social media you may have seen our series of posts featuring a Masonic Alphabet, devised by the Comms Team and Jon West, Provincial Grand Mentor. If you have suggestions for future posts, including title, image, text and link, please send to comms@pglcambs.org.uk

This edition of The Second Rising has been produced by
Andy Clifton, Jon Cooper and Ted Ridgway Watt.
Please visit www.cambridgeshirefreemasons.org.uk
or contact your Lodge Secretary for more information.