



The Vault

Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch

Province of Worcestershire

Edition - 1

This is a new Initiative of the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent which commenced with a Zoom Video Meeting with Chapter Scribe E's which took place on Friday 24th April.

Chapter Scribe E's are requested to distribute this to all Chapter members either by email or sent as hard copy by post.

Present (Exec)

J M Phenix (JMP)	J C Wright (JCW)
M D Cox (MDC)	B R Harper (BRH)
M G Taylor (MGT)	J H Crowther (JHC)
A J Yeates (AJY)	I M Fothergill (IMF)
T M L Jones (TMLJ)	B J Griffin (BJG)
B S Rothero (BSR)	R J Foster (RJF)
W F G Tucker (WFT)	Keith Evans (KME)
Derek Owen (DWO)	

Scribe Es

RJF 280, Eugene Farrell 573, Martin Preece 1874, Richard Harper 3308, Roger Cheney 3569, Bob Morris 4621, Robert Johnson 4935, Robert Collins 5028, Tony Bagshawe 5414, Derek Hill 5691, Bob Brazier 6031, DWO 6879, Paul Wilkes 7214, Gerry Jinks 7679,

27 logged in following the invitation from TMLJ on behalf of MEGS. (2 others tried to join without success.)

Welcome and Introduction

The MEGS welcomed all, some of whom had obvious problems with the logging in process. As a consequence, this informal meeting started, eventually, at 11.17 am.

The MEGS began by explaining that although the Provincial Office is closed, the phone has been diverted directly to the Prov Scribe E. BRH

confirmed this, and that there may be a need to choose 'option 2' after dialling in.

The MEGS then mentioned the sadly cancelled Provincial Grand Chapter meeting at Bromsgrove School. He and the other Rulers had personally telephoned to congratulate all Companions who had received appointments or promotions that day. This had been very well received.

He next mentioned that yesterday, 23rd April, would have been Abbot Lichfield Chapter's Centenary.

Comp Richard Harper spoke, confirming they intended to re-arrange it, if and when circumstances allow. Comp Richard then lightened the mood by commenting on the number of beards which had been cultivated during the lock-down (* over 60% of those present).

Reports

The MEGS then began the meeting proper by asking for reports from those Scribe Es present. 280 – St Wulstans: Comp Royston Foster. Installation not held, MEZ had emailed all members, Almoner George Leech very diligent at regularly telephoning all. No Health worries.

529- Semper Fidelis: Comp Keith Evans. Former Wyche members keep in close touch, Scribe E contacts 'old' Semper members.

560 – Vernon: Comp Tim Jones. Plan to have Zoom meetings, no health problems.

564- Stability: Comp John Yeates. Concerns due to lockdown about when can move furniture, carpet etc, from Talbot Hotel to New meeting place. Building work on new hall still in limbo. DWO commented that construction generally may be about to restart.

573- Perseverance: Comp Eugene Farrell. Keeping in touch. Not tried Zoom yet. Many members in Mark, who have been communicating via WhatsApp. No health issues. The MEGS reminded all that we still can use 'phones – particularly for those not on email/social media.

1874 – Lechmere Hughes: Comp Martin Preece. Over 2/3 of chapter are in Lodge too and keep in touch on WhatsApp. Almoner Roger Holt very diligent.

He has used time in lockdown to sort out bookings for Kings Heath. Thanked by MEGS.

3185 – Stechford: Comp Brian Harper. Scribe E keeps in touch. Installation summons prepared for October. No health probs. BSR sends out hard copy minutes to Comps not on the net.

The MEGS mentioned Comp Martyn Hardeman. Lives alone, had to learn to cook meals! All encouraged to keep in touch.

3308 – Abbot Lichfield: Comp Richard Harper. Most Comps are members of Elmley Castle Lodge, so keep in touch. September meeting is Installation. Comp Fred Payne, (ex-member) died of Covid. Richard phones Tony King regularly (still driving about...)

3378 – Page: MEGS mentioned cancellation of Centenary, and that Comp Steve Holmes still v unwell with Covid in Worcs Royal Hospital. Peter Broughton, Scribe E, keeping our electrical supply going.

3569 – Avon: Comp Roger Cheney. Installation due in June! Keeps in touch by email.

4495 – Bordesley Abbey: Comp Barry Griffin. Missed Installation. No Zoom, but keep in touch by Facebook and email. No health problems.

4621 – St. Edburgha: Comp Bob Morris. Took over from MDC, and first real meeting, March, – cancelled due to lockdown! Had spoken to Martyn Hardeman – in his garden.

4935 – Wigornia: Comp Robert Johnson. Has contacted those unwell. Mentioned some Comps are bored! Used Zoom for first time yesterday; may now try combined Wigornia/Bon Accord Zoom.

Stuart Donnelly passed of Covid. Scott McGann in good spirits – has new hairstyle.

Has concerns that people may leave Chapter/Craft if lockdown continues too long.

5028 – Mosaic: Comp Robert Collins. The Chapter has lasted longer because of lockdown. Has spoken to all members.

5414 - Bromsgrove: Comp Tony Bagshawe. Last meeting cancelled; hope September meeting happens.

5691 – Red Rose of St. George: Derek Hill. Have lost March and May, hopeful re October Installation.

6031 – Lapel: Comp Bob Brazier. Very quiet. Will lose May meeting.

6879 – Merston Culy: Comp Derek Owen. May meeting cancelled, have contacted all members by email. No illness. Mentioned loss of Comp Alan Clift who provided the drink at Kings Heath. (Heart attack).

7214 -Weatheroak: Comp Paul Wilkes. Carrying over their double Exaltation until next year. Using Weatheroak Lodge Whats App to communicate. Mentioned Lorraine, caterer at Kings Heath, possible support payments, charity?

The MEGS made two points: 1. Many people need support at present. The MCF are helping, via regional groups, in funding larger projects. 2. All Chapters were encouraged to request support for local good causes via the Provincial Royal Arch Charity Fund.

Martin Preece – Lorraine and her daughter are sewing surgical scrubs; she has asked for donation of money to buy cloth.

7679- Brandwood: Gerry Jinks. Zoom link for Brandwood Lodge set up (most are in lodge). Brother Alan unwell (not Covid). Have a candidate.

9169 - White Ensign: Comp Ian Fothergill. Almost 80% are members of the Lodge too, and this has weekly officers meeting on social media. One member and wife eing monitored, 1 wife being supported as very vulnerable and the Treasurer's wife is vulnerable, but not considered so for support!

The MEGS advised that Grand Lodge/Supreme Grand Chapter would issue a further update regarding the suspension of Masonic activities before the current period ends in mid-July. However, a return to 'normality' would likely be a long road ahead.

Comp Royston Foster reported he had received his SGC bill for Annual dues, - should he pay? The MEGS explained not, as no Installation had happened.

IMF reminded all that the Official Letter from UGLE/SGC dated 17th March should be entered in the Chapters Minute Book. Any additional explanation re the Covid closure may be added by Scribe E, but not formally required.

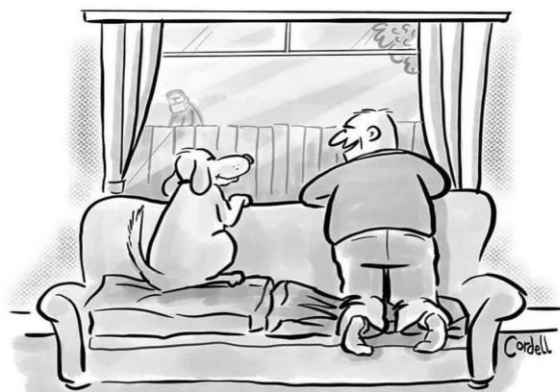
By the same token, a copy of any further letters from UGLE/SGC determining the situation, and, hopefully, resumption of normal activity.

The MEGS then thanked all for their 'attendance', and will arrange another meeting in a month's time (subsequently confirmed for 30th May).

The Exec may wish to contact individual Chapters, or groups of Chapters, by Zoom. This was received well.

Meeting ended at 12.30 pm

Footnote:



"Until now, I never understood why you got so excited when someone walked past the house."

Editors Footnote:

Companions, to be successful any communications media needs to be two-way. Please forward any information that you believe would be helpful to the Provincial Information Officer:

E. Comp. Ian Fothergill

imfandif@btinternet.com

[Remember our](#) website address

www.worcspgc.org.uk

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