

# *The Worcestershire Second Risings*



## *Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch Province of Worcestershire Special Edition*

This Second Rising Communication is for distribution by the Chapter Scribe E to all Chapter members either by email or sent as hard copy by post.

### **Introduction**

Companions this issue comes to you from the Editor and covers a number of important events that have and are due to take place.

We now know, and can confirm, that our Deputy Grand Superintendent, E. Comp. John M Phenix, PAGSoj, will become the Deputy in Charge from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019 and is due to be Installed at the Kings School Hall, Worcester, on the morning of Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April which will be followed by a Luncheon in the Guildhall and then the Annual Convocation of Provincial Grand Chapter will take place in the afternoon.

The Province wishes our MEGS a happy and healthy retirement and thanks him for all that he has done over the past eight- and three-quarter years in making the Provincial Grand Chapter of Worcestershire such a special and vibrant Province.

*Ian M Fothergill,*  
PGStB, PPrGJ, LGCR  
Editor

### **1) Supreme Grand Chapter**

In conjunction with UGLE a new initiative entitled "Solomon" has been developed to support Learning and development.

A brief synopsis of what it entails is published below

### ***Solomon - What it contains***

Once registered members will be able to access everything in **Solomon**. There are two main sections of learning materials:

- Seek & Learn – For personal use.
- Share & Encourage – adds material for delivery by an appointed presenter.

A third area: Support & Promote contains resources to help Provinces.

There are welcome and guidance videos to offer encouragement, help and support.

### **Finding your way around**

Both learning sections contain Modules that cover the Craft degrees, Royal Arch, history, symbolism, Lodge matters and 'about Freemasonry'.

To access a module, you simply enrol into it, browse, search and download material as desired.

Please encourage your members not to enrol in modules beyond their present Masonic level, so as not to diminish the experiences to come.

Any content may be used for personal reading. Some items are in audio formats too and more formats are being introduced.

### **How to use *Solomon* material**

#### **'Nuggets'**

Short 5 - 10 minute items ideal for any regular or instruction meeting or gathering. Select a topic suited to the occasion and ask a member to deliver it. 'Nuggets' can be used to provoke interest and learning, promote discussion and increase involvement. Ideally, they will become a regular and welcome additional agenda item.

#### **Papers**

More for personal reading, or small group study, they can also be used as mini-presentations.

## Presentations

These items are intended for Lodge and Chapter use, delivered by an approved presenter in a vibrant, interesting and entertaining way. They should be followed by questions and discussion.

## Demonstrations

Explanatory demonstrations of a ceremony are a good alternative to a live event. An opportunity to learn and understand more of the significance and deeper meaning. Arguably a 'must see' for us all.

## Quizzes

Much of the material lends itself to a quiz or other 'fun' learning.

## The benefits of learning

Most members seek a greater understanding of the ritual, symbolism, history and traditions of Freemasonry. This can lead to:

- Greater personal satisfaction by having their expectations, needs and wishes met
- Enhanced enjoyment and interest
- Improved understanding and performance of ritual
- Greater personal fulfilment and development
- Improved attendance, engagement and retention of members
- Members more willing and able to speak with knowledge and confidence about Freemasonry

## Getting started

The stimulus to provide learning and development opportunities may come from:

- The wishes of both new and established members
- The wish to boost interest and attendance
- Planning the year's programme
- Seeing what happens elsewhere
- Opportunities provided by your Province

## Meeting needs and interests

### Individual Learning

- Learning is a personal journey and all Members should be encouraged to use **Solomon** to follow their own interests and questions.
  - Your Members will have differing areas of interest, motivation, learning styles and preferences. If you can identify and meet these differences, it will help you succeed.
  - Some members may wish to work together to gain a better understanding. They might then be invited to share what they have learnt.
  - Personal Mentors should use **Solomon** as a resource to guide a new member's learning and progress through the Members' Pathway and beyond.
- Collective Learning*

- Not all members will readily recognise the need or benefit of learning particularly its inclusion in a Lodge or Chapter meeting.
- The benefits should be highlighted as well as the importance of addressing the needs, expectations and wishes of all members. All should contribute their views to this process.
- The new materials when well-presented should prove an attractive addition to the meeting programme, draw members back and attract visitors.
- A pilot or trial period or a visit to another Lodge or Chapter may help in promoting a positive response to learning content.
- Your Lodge or Chapter may offer to host a special event.
- Lodge or Chapter of Instruction meetings should also be part of the process.

## What help is available?

### Solomon

- is UGLE's on-line searchable repository
- provides 'Nuggets', Presentations, Papers, Demonstrations and Quizzes
- offers practical guidance to plan and deliver learning materials

## Access Solomon from here:

[solomon.ugle.org.uk](http://solomon.ugle.org.uk)

## 2) Provincial Grand Chapter

1.



On the 29 November 2018 at Wigornia Chapter, Kings Heath, the current and past officers of the Provincial Grand Chapter of Worcestershire demonstrated the Ceremony of Exaltation performed in the Worcestershire Way.

E Comp Tim Jones, the Provincial Director of Ceremonies, acted as narrator with the aim of helping Royal Arch Companions gain a greater understanding of this Ceremony and in particular the parts of the ritual which are unique to the Province of Worcestershire.

Two Provincial Past Third Principals - E Comps Ian Fothergill and John Crowther - and a past Deputy DC - E Comp Steve Middleditch - occupied the Principals'

Chairs and they conducted the ceremony in an exemplary and impressive manner.

The Sojourners were Acting Officers of the Year - Ex Comps Mike Dykes, Duncan Harper and Martin Creighan - all of whom shared the work in the manner encouraged by our MEGS.

## 2. IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE DIARY

Please note that

a. **On the 9 January** Kings Norton Chapter is celebrating its 200<sup>th</sup> meeting and Companions of the Province are encouraged to attend this meeting not only to celebrate this milestone in the Chapters history but also to join our Past Grand Superintendent Ex Comp Colin Peter Thomas Brown and to wish him well. As many of you will be aware the Past Grand Superintendent will not be able to attend Royal Arch meeting for a period of time but this is one occasion when the Companions of the Province will be able to wish him well for his retirement and to thank him for all that he has done for the Province during his tenure as our Grand Superintendent. If you are interested in attending please contact Scribe E of the Chapter Alan Bolton ]

### b. Provincial Visit to Sutherland Chapter in Stoke

**On the 30 January** as a Province we are visiting Sutherland Chapter No.451. This will be the first occasion when Ex Comp John Phenix as Deputy Grand Superintendent in Charge will be leading the Province on a visit to another Province. The Provincial Officers of the year and all Companions of the Province are encouraged to join us on this special occasion. If you are interested in attending please contact John Yeates



3.

**Campbell Chapter No. 3643 celebrated their Centenary at a Special Convocation held on Thursday 15th November.**

**Number One Lodge Room at Kings Heath proved to be a very good venue for this very special occasion when some 50+ Companions came together to share this milestone in the Chapters History. On completion of the ceremony upstairs the**

**Companions enjoyed an excellent Festive Board and each received a very impressive book of the history both of the Chapter and of the Royal Arch in Worcestershire, excellently produced by E. Comp. Bill Howarth, PPrGSN, CM.**

**During his response to his Toast the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent, E. Comp. Colin P. T. Brown displayed the Collar Jewel that affixes to his Chain which was presented by Lady Campbell to the Province and has been worn by MEGS since that date.**

**An excellent evening and the Chapter can be very proud of its attainment.**

## 3) Chapter News

On Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December some 54 Companions gathered at Redditch to celebrate the Annual Installation of White Ensign Chapter. On this occasion however, it was a very special occasion as it was the last official visit of the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent, E. Comp. Colin P T Brown prior to his retirement.

The title of the song "Oh what a Night" is probably very apt for what took place. The Chapter was graced not only with the presence of the current MEGS, but had 2 Past Grand Superintendents, the Deputy Grand Superintendent and two Past Deputies and 9 other Grand Officers, together with a galaxy of Provincial Officers in attendance. This must be some sort of record for a normal Chapter Installation. The Chapter welcomed back the Consecrating Grand Superintendent, E. Comp. Richard Price, an Honorary Member, and someone who assisted the move to Redditch 6 years ago, the Past MEGS of Warwickshire, E. Comp. John Saint.

Added to this we had the Deputy Grand Superintendent, John M Phenix, an Honorary Member and who was an ADC at our Consecration, and the Past Deputy E. Comp. Mike Taylor, PGSwdB, who was the Consecrating Joshua and who is also an Honorary Member.

The Provincial Team did a superb job, in traditionally Opening the Chapter. This wonderful tradition is something this Province should be very proud of.

The Chapter was delighted to see E. Comp. Frank Walters, PPrAGDC, finally Installed into the Z Chair and were grateful to E. Comp's David Crump, H, and Martin Green, J, to agree to serve a second year in their respective offices.





At the Festive Board the Toast to the MEGS was given by E. Comp. Keith Evans, PGStB, and on completion E. Comp. Ian Fothergill, PGStB, PPrGJ, presented on behalf of the Chapter, a Scottish Quaich (Cup of Friendship) and a bottle of the MEGS favourite Tennessee Bourbon.

On completion of his response to his Toast the Companions all stood and gave him rapturous acclaim in recognition of all he has done to ensure the development and improvement of this Supreme Order in Worcestershire.

He is to be balloted for as an Honorary Member at the Chapter's next Convocation.

To all our Readers



And a Happy and Healthy New Year.

#### 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

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