

# UNITED GRAND LODGE

OF

## Antient, Free and Accepted Masons of England

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### Quarterly Communication

Holden at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London  
on Wednesday, the 14th day of September 2016

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Present:

RW Bro J. Spence ..... Deputy Grand Master  
RW Bro Sir David Wootton ..... Assistant Grand Master  
RW Bro Sir Michael Snyder ..... Metropolitan Grand Master for London  
RW Bro the Rev M.C.G. Lane ..... Provincial Grand Master for Monmouthshire  
RW Bro D.P.L. Hodgetts, *LVO* ..... Provincial Grand Master for Guernsey and Alderney  
RW Bro R. Merritt ..... Provincial Grand Master for Dorset  
RW Bro G. Ives ..... Provincial Grand Master for Lincolnshire  
RW Bro N.E. Heaviside ..... Provincial Grand Master for Durham  
RW Bro N.J. Thompson, *DL* ..... Provincial Grand Master for Cumberland and Westmorland  
RW Bro K.M. Rondel ..... Provincial Grand Master for Jersey  
RW Bro D.F. Macey ..... Provincial Grand Master for Warwickshire  
RW Bro M.J. Wilks ..... Provincial Grand Master for Hampshire and Isle of Wight  
RW Bro A.J. Vaughan ..... Provincial Grand Master for Bristol  
RW Bro C.A.S. Hadler ..... Provincial Grand Master for Somerset  
RW Bro M.W. Bayes .. Provincial Grand Master for Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire  
RW Bro G.G. Dearing ..... Provincial Grand Master for East Kent  
RW Bro M.G. Peters ..... Provincial Grand Master for Berkshire  
RW Bro G. Robertson ..... Provincial Grand Master for Buckinghamshire  
RW Bro Dr A.I. Stewart, *TD* ..... Provincial Grand Master for Staffordshire  
RW Bro the Rev D.J. Bowen ..... Provincial Grand Master for Herefordshire  
RW Bro I. Kingsbury ..... Provincial Grand Master for Devonshire  
RW Bro I.J. Yeldham ..... Provincial Grand Master for Suffolk  
RW Bro R.C. Vaughan ..... Provincial Grand Master for Worcestershire  
RW Bro G. Jones, *OBE* ..... Provincial Grand Master for South Wales  
RW Bro P.J. Gower ..... Provincial Grand Master for Hertfordshire  
RW Bro D.S. Pratt ..... Provincial Grand Master for Yorkshire, West Riding  
RW Bro J. Gillyon ..... Provincial Grand Master for Yorkshire, North and East Ridings  
RW Bro S.D. Hookey ..... Provincial Grand Master for West Wales  
RW Bro A.G.D. Mason ..... Pro Provincial Grand Master for Middlesex

RW Bro J.A. Harrison .....	Provincial Grand Master for West Lancashire
RW Bro D.H.T. Henderson-Ross .....	Provincial Grand Master for Gloucestershire
RW Bro J.R.G. Hilditch .....	Provincial Grand Master for Oxfordshire
RW Bro S.C. Pearn .....	Provincial Grand Master for Cornwall
RW Bro A.S. Varley .....	Provincial Grand Master for Derbyshire
RW Bro S.M. Blank .....	Provincial Grand Master for Cheshire
RW Bro P.G. Marshall .....	Provincial Grand Master for Nottinghamshire
RW Bro R.L. Bass .....	Provincial Grand Master for Essex
RW Bro S.N. Allen .....	Provincial Grand Master for Norfolk
RW Bro W.C.M. Dastur .....	Provincial Grand Master for Cambridgeshire
RW Bro I.M. Chandler .....	Provincial Grand Master for Surrey
RW Bro C.L. Moore .....	Provincial Grand Master for Sussex
RW Bro Sir John Welch, <i>Bt</i> , OSM, PSGW .....	as Senior Grand Warden
RW Bro the Rev Dr J.R.H. Railton .....	Junior Grand Warden
VW Bro the Rev Canon M. Wilson .....	Grand Chaplain
RW Bro the Rt Hon Sir John Chadwick, <i>ED</i> , PSGW .....	Grand Registrar
RW Bro Brig W.E. Shackell, <i>CBE</i> , PJGW .....	Grand Secretary
RW Bro D.R. Dinsmore, PJGW .....	Grand Chancellor
VW Bro His Honour Judge R.M. Hone, <i>QC</i> .....	President, Masonic Charitable Foundation
RW Bro O.A.W. Lodge, <i>TD</i> , PJGW .....	Grand Director of Ceremonies
VW Bro C.P.T. Brown .....	Grand Sword Bearer
VW Bro J.C. Pagella .....	Grand Superintendent of Works
VW Bro Dr L.L. Porter .....	Grand Inspector, Malta
RW Bro Q.C.T. Humberstone, PJGW .....	Grand Treasurer
VW Bro J.M. Long, <i>TD</i> , PGSwdB .....	Deputy President, Board of General Purposes
VW Bro G.F. Redman, PGSwdB .....	Deputy Grand Secretary
VW Bro J.M. Hamill, PGSwdB .....	Deputy Grand Chancellor
W Bro M.J.P. Horlock .....	Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies
W Bro M.A.J. Gurney .....	Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies
W Bro Dr D.R. Staples .....	Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies
W Bro R.W. Mitchell .....	Deputy Grand Sword Bearer
W Bro D.A. Graeme .....	Senior Grand Deacon
W Bro Capt S.S.S. Judah, <i>MBE</i> .....	Senior Grand Deacon
W Bro R.G.S. Wright .....	Senior Grand Deacon
W Bro J.C. Reid .....	Junior Grand Deacon
W Bro J. Boyington, <i>CBE</i> .....	Junior Grand Deacon
W Bro A.C. Howlett-Bolton, <i>OBE</i> .....	Junior Grand Deacon
W Bro C.E. Lord, <i>OBE</i> .....	Junior Grand Deacon
W Bro the Rev B.W. Jobber .....	Assistant Grand Chaplain
W Bro J.A.L. Berry .....	Assistant Grand Registrar
W Bro A.G. Rayner .....	Assistant Grand Secretary
W Bro S.E.R. Christie .....	Assistant Grand Secretary
W Bro J.E. Ashford .....	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
W Bro J.C. Cooper .....	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
W Bro P.F. Crockett .....	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
W Bro O.W. Davison .....	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies

W Bro G.W. Gonthier .....	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
W Bro B.L.T. McCormack .....	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
W Bro R.R. Montgomery .....	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
W Bro R.F.A. Pemberton .....	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
W Bro Cdr D. Hilton, <i>MBE, RN</i> .....	Assistant Grand Sword Bearer
W Bro A.I. Torrance .....	Assistant Grand Sword Bearer
W Bro N.J. Vaughan .....	Assistant Grand Superintendent of Works
W Bro C.J. Robinson .....	Assistant Grand Superintendent of Works
W Bro C.A. Jackson, <i>MVO</i> .....	Grand Organist
W Bro J.E. Burnapp .....	Grand Standard Bearer
W Bro D.N. Hanson .....	Grand Standard Bearer
W Bro Dr S.K. Archer .....	Assistant Grand Standard Bearer
W Bro C.W. Bradley .....	Assistant Grand Standard Bearer
W Bro S.N. Graham .....	Assistant Grand Standard Bearer
W Bro R.K. Jordan .....	Assistant Grand Standard Bearer
W Bro A.D.M. Warham .....	Deputy Grand Organist
W Bro Dr S.J. Borwick .....	Grand Pursuivant
W Bro A.R. Austin .....	Assistant Grand Pursuivant
W Bro K.J. Law .....	Assistant Grand Pursuivant
W Bro A.J. Ross .....	Assistant Grand Pursuivant
W Bro P.D.E. Gibbs .....	Grand Steward
W Bro C.M.D. Thomson .....	Grand Steward
W Bro F.J.C. Luard .....	Grand Steward
W Bro A.P.L. Fermor, <i>PAGDC</i> .....	Grand Steward
W Bro S.R. Forman .....	Grand Steward
W Bro D. Nunn, <i>PSGD</i> .....	Grand Steward
VW Bro J.H. Newman, <i>DepPresMCF</i> .....	Grand Steward
W Bro D.I. Wilson .....	Grand Steward
W Bro J.W.P. Campbell, <i>PAGSuptWks</i> .....	Grand Steward
W Bro M.C. Frangos, <i>PGStB</i> .....	Grand Steward
VW Bro G.C. Higgs, <i>PGSwdB</i> .....	Grand Steward
W Bro E. Regan, <i>PGStB</i> .....	Grand Steward
W Bro C.G. Wynterbee-Robey .....	Grand Steward
W Bro M. Brooks, <i>PJGD</i> .....	Grand Tyler

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

RW Bro D.K. Williamson .....	Past Assistant Grand Master
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A large number of Past Grand Officers, qualified Past Grand Stewards, and the Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens of many private Lodges.

## VISITORS

### GRAND EAST OF THE NETHERLANDS

MW Bro Gerrit van Eijk ..... Grand Master  
VW Bro Dick Vogelaar ..... Grand Secretary

### GRAND LODGE OF AUSTRIA

RW Bro Josef Hollos ..... Grand Secretary for International Relations

### GRAND LODGE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

MW Bro Kenneth Fuller ..... Grand Master  
VW Bro Andrew Hammer ..... Grand Chancellor

### SYMBOLIC GRAND LODGE OF PARAGUAY

MW Bro Edgar Sanchez Caballero ..... Grand Master  
RW Bro Jose Fernandez Zacur ..... Assistant Grand Master  
RW Bro Raúl Pintos Grassi ..... Grand Chancellor

### NORWEGIAN ORDER OF FREEMASONS – GRAND LODGE OF NORWAY

RW Bro Fredrik Hilding ..... Grand Secretary for Foreign Relations

### GRAND LODGE OF SASKATCHEWAN

MW Bro John Leyshon ..... Past Grand Master

### NATIONAL GRAND LODGE FRANCE

RW Bro Jean-Pierre Rollet ..... Deputy Grand Master

### GRAND LODGE OF THE STATE OF SÃO PAULO

MW Bro Élzio Duarte Alecrim ..... Honorary Grand Master  
RW Bro Aleksandar Jovanovic ..... Grand Secretary on Foreign Affairs

### ICELANDIC ORDER OF FREEMASONS – GRAND LODGE OF ICELAND

MW Bro Valur Valsson ..... Grand Master

### GRAND LODGE OF INDIA

MW Bro Harcharan Singh Ranauta, OSM ..... Grand Master  
MW Bro Vasudev Jamnabihar Masurekar, OSM ..... Past Grand Master  
RW Bro Vipin Kumar Gupta ..... Grand Secretary

A number of Master Masons not qualified to attend as Wardens.

Grand Lodge was opened in ample form and with solemn prayer at 12.00 noon.

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## HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN'S 90TH BIRTHDAY

RW DEPUTY GRAND MASTER: Brethren, before we proceed I am sure you would like to know that I am instructed by the Most Worshipful The Grand Master to inform this Grand Lodge, and the Craft as a whole, of an exchange of letters that has taken place in connection with Her Majesty's ninetieth birthday. They read as follows:

To Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II,

On behalf of all members of the United Grand Lodge of England I send loyal greetings and congratulations on the occasion of Your Majesty's ninetieth Birthday.

*(Signed)* EDWARD, Grand Master  
United Grand Lodge of England

Brethren, Her Majesty has graciously replied:

To H.R.H The Duke of Kent, Grand Master,

Please convey my warm thanks to the Members of the United Grand Lodge of England for their loyal greetings, sent on the occasion of my ninetieth birthday.

I much appreciate your thoughtfulness in writing as you did and, in return, I send my best wishes to you and all concerned.

*(Signed)* ELIZABETH R

## CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RW DEPUTY GRAND MASTER: Brethren, the first item on the Paper of Business is to consider the Minutes of our meeting in June. Unfortunately, there is an omission from the attendance list in the person of the Assistant Grand Master. I am unsure whether to blame him for not signing in, or the Grand Secretary for omitting him, but with that amendment may they be taken as read and confirmed?

The Minutes, subject to the correction of the item mentioned above, were confirmed.

## REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES

On the Motion of the DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES (VW Bro J.M. LONG, TD, PGSwdB), seconded by the GRAND TREASURER (RW Bro Q.C.T. HUMBERSTONE, PJGW), the following report of the Board of General Purposes was taken as read.

*To the United Grand Lodge of Antient, Free and Accepted Masons of England*

### BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES

#### *Meetings in 2017*

1. In accordance with the requirements of Rule 225 of the Book of Constitutions, notice is hereby given of the dates upon which the Board of General Purposes will meet in 2017:

7 February	18 July
21 March	19 September
16 May	14 November

#### TELEVISION DOCUMENTARY

2. By the time that the Grand Lodge meets, filming for the documentary *Inside The Freemasons* will have been completed. The series, made by Emporium Productions for Sky, is likely to be broadcast in January 2017.

3. The Board wishes to emphasise the point made by the MW Pro Grand Master at the June Quarterly Communication that both at that meeting and elsewhere some things had been filmed in order to give a representative picture of Freemasonry which should not be seen as precedents to be followed by individual Lodges in future. Questions as to what might properly be filmed arose regularly during the filming for the series, and not every member of the Craft might agree with the decisions which were made – often under significant pressure of time – but the Board trusts that the Grand Lodge will take the view that the decisions taken were justified in the interests of the Craft as a whole.

#### ATTENDANCE AT LODGES UNDER THE ENGLISH CONSTITUTION BY BRETHREN FROM OTHER GRAND LODGES

4. The Board considers it appropriate to draw attention to Rule 125 (b), Book of Constitutions, and the list of Grand Lodges recognised by the United Grand Lodge of England, which is published in the Masonic Year Book, copies of which are sent to Secretaries of Lodges.

5. Only Brethren who are members of Lodges under recognised jurisdictions may visit English Lodges. They must produce a certificate (i.e. a Grand Lodge certificate or other documentary proof of Masonic identity provided by their Grand Lodge), should be prepared to acknowledge that a personal belief in T.G.A.O.T.U. is an essential Landmark in Freemasonry, and should be able to produce evidence of their good standing in their Lodges. It is the Master's responsibility to ensure that the requirements of Rule 125 (b) are met.

6. It is particularly noted that the hazard of admitting a member of an unrecognised constitution arises not only in connection with overseas visitors (or individuals resident in this country who belong to an unrecognised constitution overseas). There are Lodges of unrecognised constitutions meeting in England, and care must be taken that their members are not admitted to our meetings.

#### ATTENDANCE AT LODGES OVERSEAS

7. The continuing growth in overseas travel brings with it an increase in visits by our Brethren to Lodges of other jurisdictions, and the Board welcomes this trend.

8. Brethren are, however, reminded that they are permitted to visit Lodges overseas only if they come under a jurisdiction which is recognised by the United Grand Lodge of England.

9. A list of recognised Grand Lodges is published annually, but as the situation does change from time to time, Brethren should not attempt to make any Masonic contact overseas without having first checked (preferably in writing) with the Grand Secretary's Office at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London WC2B 5AZ, that there is recognised Freemasonry in the country concerned and, if so, whether there is any particular point which should be watched.

10. The Board recommends that the terms of this warning should be repeated:

a. verbally in open Lodge whenever a Grand Lodge Certificate is presented,  
and

b. in print once a year in a Lodge's summons.

11. Brethren should also be aware of the Masonic convention that communications between Grand Lodges be conducted by Grand Secretaries. They should therefore not attempt without permission to make direct contact with the Grand Secretary of another Constitution. This does not preclude direct contact on a purely personal level between individual Brethren under different Grand Lodges.

## RECOGNITION OF A FOREIGN GRAND LODGE

12. The Grand Lodge of the State of Rio Grande do Sul was formed in 1928 by four Lodges regularly constituted by the Grand Orient of Brazil and which, because of internal problems, broke away from their parent to form a separate Grand Lodge within the territorial limits of the State of Rio Grande do Sul.

13. In 1961 and again in 2005 the Grand Orient of Brazil entered into treaties with the Grand Lodge of the State of Rio Grande do Sul by which each party recognised the other as regular and allowed inter-visitation between their members. The Grand Registrar has advised that by signing those treaties the Grand Orient agreed to share its territory with the State Grand Lodge and it is not therefore necessary for this Grand Lodge formally to seek the agreement of the Grand Orient to its recognising the State Grand Lodge of Rio Grande do Sul.

14. The State Grand Lodge having shown that it both conforms to the Basic Principles for Grand Lodge Recognition and has worked regularly since 1928, the Board has no reason to believe that it will not maintain a regular path and recommends that the State Grand Lodge of Rio Grande do Sul be recognised.

15. A resolution will be moved accordingly and appears at item 3 of the Paper of Business.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

16. The Board has considered the question of social media and has agreed a policy, which is available from the Grand Secretary's office or online at [www.ugle.org.uk](http://www.ugle.org.uk) and is summarised below. The Board recommends the policy to the Grand Lodge.

*Policy on Social Media*

17. Social media platforms have become an increasingly popular channel for communication in the 21st century. They provide ways to share content with a wide audience, and as such are excellent tools for sharing information about Freemasonry and Masonic activities. However, as with any powerful tool, social media need to be used with caution, as incorrect use can have a damaging impact on Freemasonry's public image, and therefore on Freemasonry itself. This should be a matter of common sense. This policy has been written to advise Freemasons on how to use social media within the compass of propriety.

*1. Digital Ambassadorship*

18. It is important to note that any interactions a Freemason has on social media may be visible to anyone in the world: while it is possible to restrict the audience of one's posts, it is not possible to control how others will react to them. A private



post can easily be shared and reposted publicly by anyone who has access to it. Even if an original post is deleted or edited, someone could already have shared it in its original form. As far as social media are concerned, everything one does or says is permanently recorded, and there is no such thing as a truly private post.

19. Acting as an ambassador for Freemasonry online is part of a Freemason's duty, and is within the scope of Rule 179 of the Book of Constitutions which states that a Freemason "...has a duty not to engage in activity which may bring Freemasonry into disrepute". Rules (civil and Masonic) and expectations that apply to one's daily conduct apply equally within the digital sphere, as comments may be taken out of context and used as representative of the views of the United Grand Lodge of England.

20. Below is a list of behaviours and topics to avoid when posting on social media. These apply to personal accounts, as well as to accounts that individual Freemasons may manage on behalf of a Lodge, Province, District, or other Masonic entity. They apply to any Freemason who is identifiable as a Freemason online, whether he is posting in Masonic or non-Masonic channels. This list is not comprehensive, but is intended to act as an introductory guide to topics or behaviours that are inappropriate for posting to any audience on social media.

21. When posting on social media platforms, a Freemason must not:

- (a) produce, link to, or refer to any content that is illegal, defamatory, or likely to offend others
- (b) cause or contribute to any hostile or unproductive arguments, or carry on any private piques or quarrels (that is to say, good-natured debate is fine, but one should be prepared to abandon the exchange if it ceases to be friendly)
- (c) discuss or allude to any of the Masonic Signs, Tokens, or Words
- (d) claim to speak for any Masonic body (e.g. a Lodge, a Province or District, a charity or committee, or UGLE) on whose behalf he is not expressly authorised to speak (for instance, membership of a Lodge in London does not give one the authority to speak on behalf of Metropolitan Grand Lodge)
- (e) identify anyone else as a Freemason without his express consent
- (f) refer to any personal information about any Freemason without his express consent (such as address, telephone number, or anything else covered by the Data Protection Act 1998; see: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1998/29/contents>)
- (g) attempt to use Masonic channels as a vehicle for personal profit, or for any other form of self-promotion
- (h) attack the United Grand Lodge of England or any other legitimate Masonic authority.

## 2. Best Practice

22. A Freemason may publicly share any Masonic content that contributes to a positive public image of Freemasonry, such as charitable work and events, good causes supported by Freemasons, and information about Masonic history.

23. Social media channels can also be used to share information only relevant to Freemasons, but care should be exercised to use a more restricted channel, such as a closed or “secret” Facebook group. Topics that might be discussed here include:

- (a) discussions about Masonic allegory and symbolism (as long as there is no mention of any Masonic Signs, Tokens, or Words)
- (b) background information about other Masonic Orders (as long as it does not ruin the experience for those who are not members)
- (c) unusual visits to other Lodges (e.g. for a special ceremony).

24. When posting about non-Masonic subjects, it is important to remember to adhere to the guidelines outlined in the Digital Ambassadorship section above.

The Board of General Purposes regrets to record the death of the following Present and Past Grand Officers reported up to 19 July 2016:

- RW Bro D.L. Kirton, DistGM, KwaZulu-Natal
- RW Bro J.B. Sussman, PDistGM, South Africa, Central Division
- W Bro G.S. Osborne, PSGD
- W Bro W.S. Blackshaw, PSGD
- W Bro H.S.L. Moseley, PJGD
- W Bro J.C. Haydon, PJGD
- W Bro C.G. Pagett, PJGD
- W Bro R.A. Arrowsmith, PJGD
- W Bro G.P. Cousen, PJGD
- W Bro R.C.E. Leathwood, PJGD
- W Bro D.T. Bell, PJGD
- W Bro H.G. Collins, PJGD
- W Bro J.E.K. Sylvester, PJGD
- W Bro the Rev Preb C.G. Moore, PAGChap
- W Bro N.J. Barnett, PAGReg
- W Bro A.J. Adler, PAGReg
- W Bro the Hon Mr Justice G. Gelaga-King, PAGReg
- W Bro T.L. Waring, PAGDC
- W Bro J. Gardner, *BEM*, PAGDC

Death of Grand Officers (*continued*)

W Bro E.S.G. Nanton, PAGDC  
 W Bro R.L. Jones, PAGDC  
 W Bro C.W. Shickle, PAGDC  
 W Bro G.G. King, PAGDC  
 W Bro A.D. Hollingsworth, PAGDC  
 W Bro C.M. Wax, PAGDC  
 W Bro J.A. Dalley, PAGDC  
 W Bro R.A. Hopper, PAGDC  
 W Bro R.C.H. Mumford, PAGDC  
 W Bro W. McLoughlin, PAGSwdB  
 W Bro K.B. Jones, PAGSuptWks  
 W Bro H. Wilson, PGStB  
 W Bro R. Kingsley, PGStB  
 W Bro B.S. Baker, PGStB  
 W Bro J.R. Bourne, PGStB  
 W Bro V.L.R. Buffong, PGStB

ERASURE OF LODGES

25. The Board has received a report that eleven Lodges have closed and have surrendered their Warrants. The Lodges are:

Wickham Lodge, No. 1924 (London)  
 Barnato Lodge, No. 2265 (London)  
 St Chad Lodge, No. 3115 (Essex)  
 Hanslip Ward Lodge, No. 3399 (Essex)  
 Baron Egerton Lodge, No. 3513 (Cheshire)  
 Selsey Lodge, No. 3571 (Sussex)  
 Barham and Watling Lodge, No. 6004 (Hertfordshire)  
 Geomatic Lodge, No. 6214 (London)  
 Waterways Lodge, No. 7913 (London)  
 Lodge of Tolerance, No. 7998 (London)  
 Bacchus Lodge, No. 9068 (Staffordshire)

26. Over recent years, the Lodges have found themselves no longer viable. The Board is satisfied that further efforts to save them would be to no avail and therefore has no alternative but to recommend that they be erased. A Resolution to this effect appears at item 4 of the Paper of Business.

EXPULSIONS

27. As required by Rule 277 (a) (i) (B), Book of Constitutions, Appendix 1 shows Brethren recently expelled from the Craft.

REPORT OF LIBRARY AND MUSEUM TRUST

28. The Board has received a report from the Library and Museum Charitable Trust which appears in Appendix 2.

FREEMASONS' HALL, LONDON  
19 July 2016

(*signed*) A.C. WILSON  
President

DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES: RW Deputy Grand Master and Brethren, I move that the Report of the Board of General Purposes be adopted and entered in the Minutes.

The Motion was seconded by the GRAND TREASURER and was agreed to.

RW DEPUTY GRAND MASTER: Brethren, the Board's Report lists the names of those Grand Officers whose deaths were reported up to 19 July.

They include RW Bro Douglas Kirton, District Grand Master for KwaZulu-Natal, who was Installed in August last year. Since the Paper of Business was prepared, news has been received of the death, at the age of 99, of RW Bro Major General Denis Beckett, PSGW, who was President of the Committee of General Purposes of Grand Chapter from 1985 to 1992. More will be said about him at Supreme Grand Chapter in November.

The Brethren stood in silence.

RESOLUTION FOR THE GRAND LODGE

RECOGNITION OF A FOREIGN GRAND LODGE

On the Motion of the GRAND CHANCELLOR (RW Bro D.R. DINSMORE, PJGW), seconded by the DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES, the Grand Lodge of the State of Rio Grande do Sul was recognised.

## RESOLUTION FOR THE GRAND LODGE

### ERASURE OF LODGES

THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES moved the erasure from the register of the Grand Lodge of the following Lodges:

Wickham Lodge, No. 1924 (London); Barnato Lodge, No. 2265 (London); St Chad Lodge, No. 3115 (Essex); Hanslip Ward Lodge, No. 3399 (Essex); Baron Egerton Lodge, No. 3513 (Cheshire); Selsey Lodge, No. 3571 (Sussex); Barham and Watling Lodge, No. 6004 (Hertfordshire); Geomatic Lodge, No. 6214 (London); Waterways Lodge, No. 7913 (London); Lodge of Tolerance, No. 7998 (London); and Bacchus Lodge, No. 9068 (Staffordshire) be erased from the register of the Grand Lodge.

## MOTION PURSUANT TO NOTICE

### AMENDMENTS TO THE BOOK OF CONSTITUTIONS

On the Motion of the DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES, seconded by the GRAND TREASURER, the following amendments to the Book of Constitutions were approved:

- (a) Rule 110 amended by the addition of the following sentence:

Should the Grand Master, being a Prince of the Blood Royal, so honour any private Lodge which has been declared under Rule 60(a) to be an unattached Lodge subject to his direct jurisdiction he shall be entitled to assume the Mastership of such Lodge without taking the formal obligation of Master Elect.

- (b) Rules 270B(a) and 271 amended by substituting for the words “the Grand Charity” the words “The Masonic Charitable Foundation”.

- (c) Any payment to be made to the Grand Charity in accordance with any resolution passed in accordance with Rule 271 shall from 1 January 2017 be made instead to the Masonic Charitable Foundation.

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GRAND LODGE WAS CALLED OFF

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FROM CONCEPT TO REALITY:  
*CREATING AN EXHIBITION ABOUT  
THREE CENTURIES OF ENGLISH FREEMASONRY*

RW DEPUTY GRAND MASTER: Brethren, I do not believe that Diane Clements needs any introduction, and it is a pleasure to see her in Grand Lodge once again. Mr Greenberg is an architect with over thirty years' experience. In 2000 he founded 'Metaphor' as an architect led firm of exhibition designers. His accomplishments include major exhibitions at the British Museum, the Victoria and Albert and the Guggenheim Bilbao as well as the redisplay of entire museums such as the Ashmolean in Oxford and the Order of St John in London. In addition to their work at the Library and Museum, Metaphor have recently been working on eleven new galleries in the National Museum of Scotland.

Diane, Mr Greenberg, the floor is yours.

DIRECTOR OF THE LIBRARY AND MUSEUM OF FREEMASONRY (MRS DIANE CLEMENTS): Good morning everyone. As you may have read in the paper of business, the Library and Museum has spent much of the last couple of years developing and installing a new gallery, with an exhibition called Three Centuries of English Freemasonry. This is one of our contributions to the celebrations of the Tercentenary of Grand Lodge. The gallery is open now on the first floor.

All of us who have been working in the Library and Museum had appreciated for some time that we needed to do more to explain the concept and history of Freemasonry, both to the public and to members, than we had been able to do either via our existing Library and Museum displays, temporary exhibitions or regular public tours of this building.

In 2012 we began working with Stephen Greenberg and his colleagues at Metaphor on a feasibility study for upgrading the existing museum space and the displays there. This caught the imagination of the Library and Museum Council, and the Board of General Purposes, and we were instead allocated an additional 200 square metres of space near the Library and Museum to develop the scheme. I am delighted that first of all Stephen and I have managed to co-ordinate our outfits today – as a bit of competition (*Laughter*) – and secondly that he has been able to join me today to talk about the project.

MR STEPHEN GREENBERG: Good morning everyone. Thank you Diane and thank you for the opportunity – which is quite rare – to talk to a large cohort of an organisation about a project in this way at the end. It has been a great project to work on. As an introduction we are both exhibition designers and architects, but above all we spend most of our time working in historic spaces. We were introduced here by

our clients in the Museum of the Order of St John just down the road in Clerkenwell. As soon as we began working with Diane and her team, we saw two things, one: remarkable spaces in this building and remarkable collections and then what really makes any exhibition: fascinating, stories. Then we were given the Prince Regent room to work with, which I think was a masterstroke of decision making because on days other than days like today it opens up to the Kent room and the Drawing room, and so visitors coming in get to be really welcomed right across the building, they can come on the tour and then they can get a chance at an immersive experience in the story of Freemasonry. So this was a huge bonus, and it enriches the publicly accessible parts of this building, and I think that is really, really important.

MRS DIANE CLEMENTS: Two hundred square metres sounds like a lot of space – and it looked quite large to me when it was empty – but we soon realised when we began working with Metaphor that we were going to have to take some tough decisions about what to include in terms of subjects we could cover and that that would result in some difficult decisions about what objects, books and documents to choose.

But, we were determined that the exhibition should seek to explain Freemasonry's values of sociability, inclusivity, charity and integrity as well as its history and development. In doing that we believe that the exhibition breaks new ground and we hope that it provides another way by which members can explain to friends, contacts and potential new members what Freemasonry is all about and we can give our general visitors – non-Masons – a better insight.

MR STEPHEN GREENBERG: Exhibitions work best when they come as a complete surprise and they take your breath away as you enter, and when they are wonderful vehicles for sharing passions, whether it is one of the Library and Museum team taking one down an unexpected path into Freemasonry and its history, or enthusing with groups of young people, or members explaining to friends and families, and I think for all of you it is very much in our minds that you would be bringing guests and, when bringing guests in, it is a wonderful vehicle, we hope, for explaining and showing them in an easy way how Freemasonry works.

MRS DIANE CLEMENTS: It won't surprise you to know that the exhibition is, appropriately enough, in three sections. This approach was retained from the feasibility stage. At the beginning, visitors walk underneath the sign for the Goose and Gridiron tavern just as those – we like to think – first Freemasons attending Grand Lodge did on 24th June 1717. The first section explores the values of Freemasonry as well as its symbolism and ritual and includes a timeline tracing its history up to 1813. The second section looks at what a Lodge room looks like, how a Lodge works, and the social side of Freemasonry. Displays also show the three Craft degrees and Masonic hierarchy and the Royal Arch, the only other order which

is explored in any detail. We also cover the huge contribution of Provincial, District and Metropolitan Grand Lodges both in a case display and also in a short film about Freemasonry and public life. Freemasonry abroad is covered in the third section which brings the story up to date with the challenges that Freemasonry has had to face in the twentieth century. As Stephen has mentioned visitors also get the chance here to look into one of the twenty or so Lodge rooms in this building.

Now the design that Stephen and his team developed with us proved to work well in terms of the content that we wanted to include even if we had to make some hard choices about what objects to leave out. The graphic element was also within their remit and I will admit that the limited word count resulted in a tremendous challenge to us.

If you want to try this yourself, try describing the history of Freemasonry in about 150 words!

MR STEPHEN GREENBERG: We have wonderful collections here and I am sure all of you have been into the Library and been on the balcony and been shown around by Diane or Mark Dennis. So the hardest challenge – especially for curators of a museum – is when you say, “you have too much stuff, you’re going to have to leave something out”. Personally I absolutely love the writing table that has the model of the first temple concealed within it and a series of calculation tables revealed on the underside of the opening panels, and some of the many chairs. But what is really exciting is that even though not everything is in the exhibition that we have made we can now move forward progressively with the redisplay and refurbishment of the Library and the existing museum space given that it has been freed up and there is more room to move around in it because we have created our exhibition. So there are other opportunities now building on this project to make the collections more accessible to wider audiences.

MRS DIANE CLEMENTS: For the first time the new gallery has enabled us to use more technology in the displays. There is a second short film about the history of this Great Queen Street site and the various Freemasons’ Halls on it.

Another challenge which I am sure many of you have faced is to try to explain Masonic symbolism, for this we created an interactive game which you can either try in the gallery or on our website. There aren’t any prizes because there aren’t really any “right” answers. What we have tried to do is to convey the idea that symbols often have a multiplicity of meanings of which the Masonic is just one.

The report on the Library and Museum in the paper of business mentions one of our other initiatives last year which was our partnership with Ancestry to digitise membership records for 1.7 million Freemasons initiated between 1750 and 1921. We were keen that the new gallery should include both famous and not so famous



Freemasons. We have the Duke of Windsor's Initiate's apron alongside Sir Winston Churchill's Master Mason's apron alongside the membership certificate for a man called George Ladbroke who was the Duke of Windsor's chauffeur, so we show visitors that all these gentlemen were members of the same organisation despite their very different status. In one of the final cases we have on display the regalia for two "ordinary" Freemasons and the regalia cases of many others. It's designed to look a little bit like a Lodge anteroom, which I have seen several times myself on my travels round the country with all those cases laid out – although I hesitate to say possibly a little bit tidier (*Laughter*). At least for now.

As Stephen said earlier creating the new gallery was just the first stage. It has also allowed us to start to redisplay the main museum space – to give some objects more prominence – such as the "Masonic table" and to show some items which have long been in store. Of course we aren't stopping there as we are continuing to do temporary exhibitions on particular themes in the Library area.

2017 is not a point to stop but a point from which to go forward. We are fortunate to work with Grand Lodge's extraordinarily rich collection of objects, books and documents and there is lots more to do.

At the Quarterly Communication in June, the Pro Grand Master spoke about enjoyment as one aspect of what Freemasonry offers. I was a bit worried in case Stephen and I had made the new gallery sound a terribly serious and worthy place, so perhaps we can just finish by mentioning a couple of the more playful objects and displays. When you visit don't forget to look out for the Masonic jelly mould just right for that Masonic "Great British Bake Off" (*Laughter*), the Masonic toast rack and the rather strange looking elephant on the jewel for Calabar Lodge.

Just a reminder, I am sure you are counting down to this, there are 281 days to go to Grand Lodge's 300th birthday next June so please visit the new gallery today and then join our countdown online on our Twitter account to the 24th June which features everyday, objects from the exhibition!

Thank you very much.

MR STEPHEN GREENBERG: Thank you.

*(Loud and prolonged applause)*

RW DEPUTY GRAND MASTER: Brethren, I am sure you would wish me to thank on your behalf both Diane and Stephen for that very interesting talk for us. You will obviously know that room number 23 is being renamed the Kent room to mark the Grand Master's 50th anniversary as Grand Master as part of these arrangements. So thank you both very much indeed, very interesting.

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GRAND LODGE WAS CALLED ON

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

RW DEPUTY GRAND MASTER: Brethren, I have to announce that the MW The Grand Master has made the following appointments:

W Bro the Rev Dr Henry William Gilchrist van der Linde, PSGD, as District Grand Master for, and Grand Superintendent in and over South Africa, Eastern Division, in succession to RW Bro Pierre Malan, who retired on 2 September. Bro van der Linde was installed the next day.

VW Bro Richard Geoffrey Davies, PGSwdB, as Provincial Grand Master for, and Grand Superintendent in and over Monmouthshire, in succession to RW Bro the Rev Malcolm Lane, who will retire on 23 October. Bro Davies will be installed the next day.

W Bro John Lockley, PSGD, as Provincial Grand Master for Staffordshire, in succession to RW Bro Dr Alexander Stewart, who will retire on 21 November. Bro Lockley will be installed the next day.

In his capacity as First Grand Principal, the MW The Grand Master has appointed E Comp Philip Laurence Hall, PDepGDC, as Grand Superintendent in and over Warwickshire, in succession to E Comp John Saint, who retired on 31 July. Comp Hall will be installed on a date to be arranged.

## WELCOME

RW DEPUTY GRAND MASTER: Brethren, I would like on your behalf to welcome some distinguished Brethren from overseas who are with us today.

From the Grand East of the Netherlands, we have, the Grand Master, MW Bro Gerrit van Eijk; he is accompanied by the Grand Secretary, VW Bro Dick Vogelaar; from the Grand Lodge of Austria, the Grand Secretary for International Relations, RW Bro Josef Hollos;

from the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, the Grand Master, MW Bro Kenneth Fuller; he is accompanied by the Grand Chancellor, VW Bro Andrew Hammer;

from the Symbolic Grand Lodge of Paraguay, the Grand Master, MW Bro Edgar Sanchez Caballero; he is accompanied by the Assistant Grand Master, RW Bro Jose Fernandez Zacur, and the Grand Chancellor, RW Bro Raúl Pintos Grassi;

from The Norwegian Order of Freemasons – Grand Lodge of Norway, the Grand Secretary for Foreign Relations, RW Bro Fredrik Hilding;

from the Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan, MW Bro John Leyshon, Past Grand Master;

from the National Grand Lodge of France, the Deputy Grand Master, RW Bro Jean-Pierre Rollet;

from the Grand Lodge of the State of São Paulo, the Honorary Grand Master, MW Bro Élzio Duarte Alecrim; he is accompanied by the Grand Secretary on Foreign Affairs, RW Bro Aleksandar Jovanovic;

from the Icelandic Order of Freemasons – Grand Lodge of Iceland, the Grand Master, MW Bro Valur Valsson; and

from the Grand Lodge of India, the Grand Master, MW Bro Harcharan Singh Ranauta; he is accompanied by MW Bro Vasudev Jamnabihar Masurekar, Past Grand Master, and the Grand Secretary, RW Bro Vipin Kumar Gupta.

From our own Constitution, we have, from Hong Kong and the Far East, RW Bro David Fok, Past District Grand Master; he is accompanied by the Deputy District Grand Master, VW Bro Herman H.C. Tsoi, PGSwdB, and one other Brother;

from Malta, the Grand Inspector, VW Bro Dr Lawrence L. Porter;

from South Africa, Western Division, the District Grand Mentor, W Bro Kenneth P. Marcus, PJGD; and

from Eastern Archipelago, W Bro David M. Thomas, PAGDC, Past Assistant District Grand Master.

I have had no notice of any other distinguished visitors from overseas. However, I extend on your behalf a very warm welcome to all Brethren who have travelled a long distance to be with us today.

## DEPUTY GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS

Brethren, I am delighted to see so many of you here today and I hope you have all had a suitably refreshing summer. I am particularly pleased to see a large number of younger Masons amongst us, especially the delegations from the Provinces of Cambridgeshire and Durham, members of the Universities Scheme and especially those of the Apollo University Lodge in Oxford.

Many of you will be aware of the excellent work undertaken by the Membership Focus Group over the last two and a half years. I hope that you are all still referring to the UGLE strategy, which was a significant development resulting from the group's work.

We have now moved to ensuring the timely implementation of the strategy and the Membership Focus Group has been superseded by the Improvement Delivery Group. This group will, rather like a well-known wood treatment product, "do exactly what it says on the tin". Its remit is to facilitate the delivery of change throughout the

Craft in order to secure a successful future for Freemasonry by meeting the needs of “modern man” while retaining our traditional standards; it is chaired by the Assistant Grand Master, the Third Grand Principal is Deputy Chairman and the membership is drawn from London and all the regional groups of Provinces.

This group will be “bedding in” for the next year, but will be reporting to Grand Lodge at the Quarterly Communication in September 2017. There is a considerable amount of work to do and we wish them all well in their endeavours.

Brethren, the Tercentenary celebrations have already begun and I am very pleased to see the variety and breadth of events that are planned to mark this significant milestone in our history. Events are being planned throughout the English Constitution.

So far well over one hundred events are scheduled ranging from Cathedral Services, Race Meetings, and Classic Car Rallies; Family Fun Weekends, supporting Youth Activities, to Dinners and Balls, including “The Grand Ball” which will take place here next September and will see this Grand Temple converted into one of the largest dance floors in London.

As the premier Grand Lodge it is appropriate we also celebrate this achievement with the other Sovereign Grand Lodges around the world, which we will do with the event at the Royal Albert Hall. I very much hope there will be a full cross section of our membership, including Master Masons, from London, Provinces and Districts and elsewhere overseas attending the meeting at the Royal Albert Hall.

As you are all aware 2017 will start with the broadcast in January of the Sky observational documentary. I have been fortunate enough to have been part of the small group that has seen all the programmes and whilst, for confidential reasons, I am unable to say more about their content, I can assure you our privacy has been respected entirely for those matters that ought to remain private for our members.

Brethren, it has become very noticeable that the times in which we live are described with some use of either uncertain or uncertainty, or a variation thereof. Uncertainty is used to describe many aspects of our national life almost as a default mechanism. In many ways our predecessors who were there at the foundation of the Grand Lodge would have felt a certain affinity and seen possible parallels with their own time, although they would probably have used the word turbulent to describe the second decade of the eighteenth century.

In their case the uncertain times included significant change with a new ruling dynasty following the accession of King George I in 1714, a significant rebellion from supporters of the old dynasty defeated in 1715 and an incipient share scandal with the South Sea Bubble gently inflating until the spectacular bust. In those and, indeed, in the intervening uncertain times of the subsequent three hundred years, the principles of the Craft have withstood the test of time and are as relevant today as they were then.

We may now restate them in more modern language as integrity; honesty; fairness; kindness and tolerance, but their essence is unchanged and we should all be justly proud of them and, needless to say, act in accordance with them.

To finish, I will quote King Frederick II, or The Great, of Prussia who said his support of the Craft came from its objectives being, “the intellectual elevation of men as members of society and making them more virtuous and more charitable”. I do not think that his view can be bettered.

Thank you, Brethren.

*(Applause)*

At the close of the proceedings, the first verse of the National Anthem was sung.

The Grand Lodge was closed in ample form and with solemn prayer.

The meeting closed at 12.46 p.m.

## RECORDED ATTENDANCE AT THE GRAND LODGE

Grand Officers (including Present Grand Stewards) .....	511
Masters, Wardens and Past Masters .....	348
Master Masons not qualified as Wardens.....	43
Visitors .....	17
Total .....	<u>919</u>

*APPENDIX 1***EXPULSIONS FROM THE CRAFT**

The following list shows Brethren expelled from the Craft with the Lodges (Chapters) of which once a member.

Name	Lodges (Chapters)
<b>6 June 2016</b>	
David Chapelhow	L1779
Sean David Jeffery	L9072
Benjamin David Pickering	L3624 (C3624)
David Robert Pyall	L1922
Andrew Norman Rowell	L6424 L9179
Darren Ryder	L1424 L6061
<b>8 June 2016</b>	
Baron Howard Paul Noonan	L1158

## APPENDIX 2

### REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LIBRARY AND MUSEUM CHARITABLE TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2016

*The following report is drawn from the Annual Report and Accounts of the Council of the Library and Museum for the year ended 31 January 2016. For a copy of the full Annual Report and Accounts please write to the Director.*

#### **THE YEAR REVIEWED**

The Library and Museum spent much of 2015 preparing to open a major new exhibition, *Three Centuries of English Freemasonry*, located in additional gallery space on the first floor. The exhibition breaks new ground in seeking to explain both Freemasonry's values of sociability, inclusivity, charity and integrity and its history and development. This is the first exhibition for which the Library and Museum team has worked with exhibition designers and external contractors for the design, build and installation. Preparation of material for display has also involved conservation of a number of objects, books and documents and the creation of cataloguing records. The exhibition opened to the public in April 2016. A series of gallery talks and other events are being prepared for later this year.

Following the opening of the new exhibition gallery, the Library and Museum extended its opening hours to include Saturdays. The Library and Museum also launched itself on social media as an additional means of engaging with users, visitors and members.

There were several temporary exhibitions during the year. The first of these, *English Freemasonry and the First World War* (September 2014 – May 2015), was organised with the support of the First World War Centenary Partnership, a national grouping of museums and cultural events organised by the Imperial War Museum. It was accompanied by the publication of a book written by the staff and drawing on the research for the exhibition. The book was well received and has seen continued sales. The subject of the First World War has been a popular subject for outreach talks by staff to Lodges and Chapters. The second exhibition was *Spotlight: Freemasons and Entertainment* (June 2015 – February 2016) which drew on material from over twenty Lodges associated with theatre, music and entertainment from the 1700s to the 2000s. The current temporary exhibition, *Healing through Kindness*, tells the story of the Royal Masonic Hospital which first opened as a war hospital one hundred years ago.

2015 saw a significant development in making the collections available online resources. The Library and Museum has been working in partnership with Ancestry UK since 2014 to digitise membership records and make them available for

research. In November 2015 Ancestry UK published on line the membership records for more than 1.7m names covering the period 1750–1921. This is the third largest private sector digitisation project in this sector in the UK. Ancestry co-ordinated press coverage for this launch which included the filming in Freemasons' Hall of an online video starring Tony Robinson. The initial response has been very positive with significant usage statistics.

Two of the ways in which the Library and Museum measures its success are by measuring the number of people visiting and the quality of their visit. Since late 2013, the Library and Museum has subscribed to Visitor Verdict, an online visitor survey scheme which provides feedback about visitors' responses to many aspects of their visit to the Library and Museum including their enjoyment levels and motivation for visiting. Visitor numbers in 2015 were lower than in previous years – 26,200 – but visitor satisfaction remain high and significantly above the levels reported by a benchmark of other similar museum attractions in central London. Tours of the ceremonial areas were disrupted in the first half of the year due to the work involved in the refurbishment of the Grand Temple organ.

Work has continued on cataloguing items from the museum collections, photographs and engravings and photograph albums and on enhancing catalogue records of library material. During the year details for all the archive records relating to the Freemasons Hospital and Nursing Home, known as the Royal Masonic Hospital from 1933, a total of 428 entries, were added to the on-line catalogue.

Donations of regalia, books and artefacts have continued to enable the Library and Museum to expand its collections and the Council is grateful for the generosity of all donors.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The Library and Museum's trading subsidiary, Letchworth's (Freemasons' Hall, London) Limited ("Letchworths"), which was acquired by the Library and Museum in 2002 has continued to develop its retail operations both to provide additional income for the Trust and to raise awareness of the Library and Museum collections. In 2016 it made a Gift Aid contribution to the Library and Museum of £70,757 (2015: £53,834). Since 2002 the total donations made by Letchworths to support the Library and Museum have exceeded £1m.

The activities of the Library and Museum are funded by donations and fees charged for genealogical research. The Friends of the Library and Museum established in 2001 enables individuals (whether Freemasons or not), Lodges and Chapters to support the Library and Museum by way of an annual subscription. Friends receive regular Newsletters and can attend special events. The Friends scheme is open to



all those interested in developing their understanding of the varied collections of the Library and Museum and who wish to contribute to their development and care.

Taking into account the importance of the new *Three Centuries of English Freemasonry* exhibition for the development of new audiences and improving the visitor experience and understanding of Freemasonry, the Council of the Library and Museum agreed that the costs associated with this should be met from the Library and Museum's reserves.

## **2017**

The Library and Museum is working with several Provinces contributing to plans and initiatives now underway in anticipation of the celebration of the Tercentenary of Grand Lodge in 2017. A guidebook for the new exhibition gallery will be published later this year and a major publication about the Treasures of the Library and Museum is scheduled for publication early in 2017.

**APPENDIX 3****REPORT TO THE UNITED GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND FROM THE TRUSTEES OF THE FREEMASONS' FUND FOR SURGICAL RESEARCH FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2015**

*The sole object of the Fund is to apply monies to further research in the science of surgery in conjunction with the Royal College of Surgeons of England ("the College"). The Fund was created in 1967 as a charitable foundation with money raised by contributions from Freemasons of the English Constitution to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the first meeting of Grand Lodge. The governing instrument is a Declaration of Trust dated 8 May 1967 and in addition the Trustees have regard to guidance in respect to public benefit given by the Charity Commission in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.*

**STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE**

*The Patron of the Fund is MW Bro HRH Duke of Kent, Grand Master, in whom is vested the power to appoint new Trustees. The Trustees of the Fund in 2015 were RW Bro Anthony West, DL, PJGW (Chairman); RW Bro Anthony Wilson, DL, PSGW, PresBGP; RW Bro the Rt. Hon Lord Ribiero, Kt, CBE, FRCS, PJGW; W Bro Robert Mackay, PAGDC, W Bro Julian Soper, PAGDC, and W Bro Jolyon Berry, AGReg and W Bro Anthony Narula, FRCS, PPrGStB, Nottinghamshire (both appointed on the 22nd May 2015). The Secretary to the Trustees is W Bro Michael Messent, PAGReg.*

*The Trustees met twice in 2015 and reviewed investment performance, considered grant requests and undertook a review of the documented policy on the major risks to which the charity is exposed and a review of the documented investment policy.*

*The independent examiners are Dixon Wilson of 22 Chancery Lane, London, WC2. They have drawn up accounts for 2015 which were approved by the Trustees in October 2016.*

*The investment advisors to the Trustees are Cazenove Capital Management (a trading name of Schroder & Co Ltd.), 12 Moorgate, London, EC2.*

**GRANTS**

In each year the Trustees assess the amount of the grant which it is judged may properly be made from the fund to the College, the decision being made on advice from Cazenoves and having regard to the Trustees' investment policy, which is to maintain the value of the Trust's capital whilst generating a stable and sustainable return to fund grant making in the long term.

In 2015 the Trustees resolved to grant the College the sum of £220,000 (in 2014 £135,000). This payment brought the total amount granted to the College, since the inception of the Fund, to the sum of £4,685,308. The grant made in autumn 2015 enabled the College to meet the funding costs associated with four surgeons, two of whom were attributed to The Royal Arch and two to Grand Lodge.

In each autumn it is the practice of the Trustees to meet with senior members of the College and to receive personal oral presentations from current Research Fellows, and at that same meeting to select from a short list of applicants the appropriate recipients for grants in the ensuing year.

## **RECENT DEVELOPMENTS**

After its establishment, the Fund did not receive any additional funding, but by virtue of prudent investment and making grants of an amount in keeping with available income, the capital value of the Fund grew to a figure of £3.7m as at 31 December 2013. The Trustees were delighted when the Supreme Grand Chapter resolved to launch an appeal for the work of the College in recognition of the 200th anniversary of the establishment of the Royal Arch. The generosity of the Royal Arch Masons, and Freemasons generally, resulted in the sum of £2,424,900 being raised, greatly exceeding expectations. It was decided that the funds raised by the appeal should be invested and administered together with the Grand Lodge 250th Fund and so in April 2014 this money was transferred to the Fund. In order to reflect these important changes, it was decided that the name of the Fund be changed to '**The Freemasons' Fund for Surgical Research**' with effect from the 1st January 2015 and that in future fellowships will be attributed to the Craft and the Royal Arch in proportion to the contribution made to the Fund, so that there will be two Royal Arch Fellows in every five fellowships supported.

At the Quarterly Communication in June 2015 the Chairman of the Fund, RW Bro Anthony West, *DL*, *PJGW*, had the honour of addressing Grand Lodge and speaking about these developments and the work of the Fund.

In the future it is intended to create a website for the Fund in order to better publicise it's work.

## **FREEMASONS RESEARCH FELLOWS REPORTS**

A summary of the work undertaken by the Fund's Research Fellows who were appointed in the autumn of 2014 and who completed their work in the autumn of 2015 is set out below.

**Mr Nicholas Eastley, *MRC*S**, Leicester Royal Infirmary

### **The characteristics and genetic profile of high-grade Soft Tissue Sarcomas**

Soft tissue sarcomas (STSs) are rare cancerous tumours that can occur at any age, and affect almost any part of the body. At present, despite treatment, over 35% of patients diagnosed with STS will die within 5 years. STS treatment generally involves surgery to remove the tumour and radiotherapy. Following treatment 50% of STSs return. This either occurs at the same place as the original tumour (local recurrence) or at a different part of the body (metastatic recurrence), and in both cases is a difficult problem to manage. Local recurrence often requires additional surgery, whilst metastatic recurrence almost always proves incurable with a 3 year survival rate of just 25%.

The ability of clinicians to offer curative surgery to patients with a recurrence is dependent on early diagnosis. In cases of local recurrence early diagnosis also reduces the likelihood of an amputation being required. This is obviously beneficial to patients individually, and society in general.

At present no reliable tests (biomarkers) exist to help clinicians to diagnose recurrence. This is partly the cause of a lack of follow up medical checks and the reason why local and distant recurrence is often extensive at the time of diagnosis.

DNA not inside cells (cell-free or cfDNA) exists in small quantities circulating in blood. In cancer patients, some of this cfDNA comes from cancer cells. No research has previously investigated the potential role of cfDNA in patients with STSs. To address this we designed a project with the primary aim of investigating the feasibility of using cfDNA to monitor patients with STSs, or as a source of new biomarkers to help clinicians detect recurrence earlier than the radiological tests currently used during follow-up. Our initial aim was to identify cfDNA in metastatic STS patients. We analysed the blood of 12 patients recruited to the trial with metastatic STSs, and identified cfDNA in 6 cases. This is novel data which confirms that cfDNA is present and detectable in metastatic soft tissue sarcoma patients. Building on this preliminary data our next objective is to monitor cfDNA throughout the follow up of patients that have undergone attempted curative surgery.

**Mr Sumit Nandi, *MRC*S**, Pancreas Biomedical Unit, University of Liverpool

### **Treatment of pancreatic cancer using nanoparticles**

Pancreatic cancer is a terrible disease despite progress in surgical and chemotherapy treatments. Survival statistics have barely improved since the 1970s, and 5-year survival is still a dismal 4%. Pancreatic cancer is difficult to diagnose and challenging to treat. The usual treatment is a demanding operation followed by burdensome chemotherapy regime. Current chemotherapy agents have a poor response, possibly due to the microscopic nature of the pancreatic tumour itself. The tumour's environment is dense and thick with a poor blood supply; this is converse to most other solid tumours. It is clear that investigation of newer or novel approaches in the treatment (especially regarding chemotherapy) of pancreatic cancer is desperately warranted.

The use of nanoparticles loaded with chemotherapy is a potential solution as it is able to precisely kill pancreatic cancer cells without the unwanted side effects of damaging healthy cells caused by current chemotherapy use.

We investigated the cell-killing capabilities of the nanoparticles in 3-dimensional and artificial circulation models. Our chemotherapy-loaded nanoparticles are able to kill pancreatic cancer cells in both a 2-D and 3-D model. Cell death is accelerated by using a specific targeting protein against pancreatic cancer cells by attaching it to the nanoparticle surface. When nanoparticles are flowed within an artificial circulation (mimicking blood circulation) they are successfully attracted to kill pancreatic cancer cells.

We now plan to start animal trial work and to create a toxicity profile of the nanoparticles with the hope of developing an application for human trials.

**Surg Lt Cdr Stuart Roberts, *MRC*S**, Imperial College London

### **Neuroinflammation and Neurodegeneration after Blast Traumatic Brain Injury**

Traumatic brain injury (TBI) is a common event causing severe disability in 150-200 people per million annually. In a military context, over 400 UK soldiers have been fatally wounded by blast injuries since 2001 and TBI has been described as the 'signature injury' of recent conflicts.

Long-term prognosis following TBI is poor for many patients. Typical consequences following such an injury include severe cognitive impairment and neuropsychological and neuropsychiatric disorder. Life expectancy has also been shown to reduce by up to 40% following TBI, for reasons that are not fully understood. Soldiers are young so long-term physical, cognitive, behavioural and psychological effects are devastating and under-recognised.

The aim of this research is to investigate if blast TBI causes chronic inflammation and degeneration of the brain. We envisage improved understanding of long-term consequences of blast TBI, allowing for targeted follow up of soldiers, mitigation therapies and improved battlefield resuscitation strategies.

My research assessed 10 soldiers with blast TBI. We also have civilian (non-blast) TBI and controls (with no injury). We assessed Cerebrospinal Fluid, white matter damage and other markers indicative of neuroinflammation. MRI scanning shows extensive white matter damage in soldiers following blast, which has clear tested effects on cognition and function. Initial novel Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy suggests that compared to controls, soldiers have molecular abnormalities similar to inflammation in civilian TBI that may disrupt networks within the brain.

Building on our preliminary data we will complete the tests and the analysis of the data, hoping to confirm our hypothesis that blast TBI will result in inflammation and degeneration. These results can feed into strategies such as helmet design or rehabilitation for injured personnel. Importantly, there is no targeted drug therapy for the majority of TBI patients, therefore it will be crucial to look at anti-inflammatory treatments that could mediate the effects of blast, ensuring we do not let our soldiers down in their recovery.

LIST OF NEW LODGES FOR WHICH WARRANTS HAVE BEEN GRANTED BY  
THE MW THE GRAND MASTER SHOWING THE DATES FROM WHICH  
THEIR WARRANTS BECAME EFFECTIVE

DATE OF WARRANT/ No. AND NAME OF LODGE	LOCATION	AREA
<i>28 April 2016</i>		
9927 Cambridgeshire Lodge of Provincial Grand Stewards	Cambridge	Cambridgeshire
<i>8 June 2016</i>		
9928 Santa Catarina Lodge	Florianópolis	South America, Northern Division
9929 Lodge of Friendship	Sorocaba	South America, Northern Division
9930 Lodge of True Aim	Hertford	Hertfordshire
9931 Sportsman's Lodge of Suffolk	Sudbury	Suffolk
9932 Spinnaker Lodge	Portsmouth	Hampshire and Isle of Wight
9933 Fenland Farmers' Lodge	Peterborough	Cambridgeshire
9934 St Hubertus Lodge	Pontefract	Yorkshire, West Riding

