

# 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 June 2017

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Present:

MW Bro P.G. Lowndes ..... Pro Grand Master  
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 D.P.L. Hodgetts, *LVO* ..... Provincial Grand Master for Guernsey and Alderney  
RW Bro A.H. Ryan ..... District Grand Master for Gibraltar  
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 D.F. Macey ..... Provincial Grand Master for Warwickshire  
RW Bro M.J. Wilks ..... Provincial Grand Master for Hampshire and Isle of Wight  
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 P.A. Taylor ..... Provincial Grand Master for Shropshire  
RW Bro M.G. Peters ..... Provincial Grand Master for Berkshire  
RW Bro G. Robertson ..... Provincial Grand Master for Buckinghamshire  
RW Bro Sir David Trippier, *RD, DL* ..... Provincial Grand Master for East Lancashire  
RW Bro I. Kingsbury ..... Provincial Grand Master for Devonshire  
RW Bro R.C. Vaughan ..... Provincial Grand Master for Worcestershire  
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 J.J. Craigs ..... Provincial Grand Master for Northumberland  
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 P.S.A. Bullock ..... Provincial Grand Master for Wiltshire  
RW Bro S.M. Blank ..... Provincial Grand Master for Cheshire

RW Bro P.G. Marshall .....	Provincial Grand Master for Nottinghamshire
RW Bro M.D. Estaugh .....	Provincial Grand Master for West Kent
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.O. Hood .....	District Grand Master for Ghana
RW Bro A.P. Henderson .....	Provincial Grand Master for Bedfordshire
RW Bro I.M. Chandler .....	Provincial Grand Master for Surrey
RW Bro R.G. Davies .....	Provincial Grand Master for Monmouthshire
RW Bro J. Lockley .....	Provincial Grand Master for Staffordshire
RW Bro Sir John Welch, <i>Bt</i> , OSM, PSGW .....	as Senior Grand Warden
RW Bro the Rt Hon Sir Antony Baldry, <i>DL</i> .....	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 His Honour R.M. Hone, <i>QC</i> , PJGW .....	President, Masonic Charitable Foundation
RW Bro O.A.W. Lodge, <i>TD</i> , PJGW .....	Grand Director of Ceremonies
VW Bro Col A.D. Mathewson, <i>OBE</i> .....	Grand Sword Bearer
VW Bro J.C. Pagella .....	Grand Superintendent of Works
RW Bro Q.C.T. Humberstone, PJGW .....	Grand Treasurer
W Bro the Rev Dr S.A. Thorn .....	Deputy Grand Chaplain
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.A.J. Gurney .....	Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies
W Bro Dr D.R. Staples .....	Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies
W Bro E.D.J. Goodchild .....	Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies
W Bro Air Vice-Marshal A.G.B. Vallance, <i>CB</i> , <i>OBE</i> .....	Deputy Grand Sword Bearer
W Bro P. Abbott .....	Deputy Grand Superintendent of Works
W Bro A.P.J. Machado .....	Senior Grand Deacon
W Bro K.J. Parkes .....	Senior Grand Deacon
W Bro K.P. Stannard .....	Senior Grand Deacon
W Bro P.W. Tarrant .....	Senior Grand Deacon
W Bro Dr B.I. Hoffbrand .....	Junior Grand Deacon
W Bro S. Jones .....	Junior Grand Deacon
W Bro M.P. Penny .....	Junior Grand Deacon
W Bro the Rev E.F. Dowland-Owen .....	Assistant Grand Chaplain
W Bro P.J. Gillyon .....	Assistant Grand Registrar
W Bro J. da Costa .....	Assistant Grand Registrar
W Bro A.G. Rayner .....	Assistant Grand Secretary
W Bro S.E.R. Christie .....	Assistant Grand Secretary
W Bro A.J. Baverstock .....	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
W Bro J.P.B. Bennett .....	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
W Bro M.H. Burrows .....	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
W Bro S.D. Farmer .....	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
W Bro W.G. Hunt, <i>TD</i> .....	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies

W Bro P.R. Jones .....	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
W Bro J.D. Judd .....	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
W Bro P. Waring .....	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
W Bro Wg Cdr G.E.P. Pattenden .....	Assistant Grand Sword Bearer
W Bro C.A. Jackson, <i>MVO</i> .....	Grand Organist
W Bro J.A.L. Parry .....	Grand Standard Bearer
W Bro E.L. Chevin .....	Assistant Grand Standard Bearer
W Bro J. Lambert .....	Assistant Grand Standard Bearer
W Bro G.D. McDonald .....	Assistant Grand Standard Bearer
W Bro M.C. Walker .....	Assistant Grand Standard Bearer
W Bro Maj R.G. Swift .....	Deputy Grand Organist
W Bro A.G. Smith .....	Grand Pursuivant
W Bro V.I. Falk .....	Assistant Grand Pursuivant
W Bro J. Flain .....	Assistant Grand Pursuivant
W Bro J.J. Kneller .....	Assistant Grand Pursuivant
W Bro R.T.G. Bell .....	Grand Steward
W Bro C.D. Radmore, <i>PAGDC</i> .....	Grand Steward
W Bro the Rev T.J.N. L'Estrange, <i>PDepGChap</i> .....	Grand Steward
W Bron M.S. McVeigh .....	Grand Steward
W Bro B.C.E. Van Randwyck .....	Grand Steward
W Bro J.R. Soper, <i>PAGDC</i> .....	Grand Steward
W Bro M.R.A. Sullivan .....	Grand Steward
W Bro T.C. Pakrashi .....	Grand Steward
W Bro S.M. Gentry .....	Grand Steward
W Bro G.P.W. Foster .....	Grand Steward
W Bro G.H. Trew .....	Grand Steward
VW Bro B.A. Vickers, <i>PGSuptWks</i> .....	Grand Steward
W Bro N.W. Penn, <i>PSGD</i> .....	Grand Steward
W Bro P.A.C. Jennings, <i>PAGDC</i> .....	Grand Steward
W Bro S.L. Barter .....	Grand Steward
W Bro Dr John Daniel Dean .....	Grand Steward
W Bro H.B. Cross .....	Grand Steward
W Bro L.C. Van Kampen-Brooks .....	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

## THE GRAND LODGE ALPINA OF SWITZERLAND

W Bro Colin Mills ..... Representative of UGLE

## SYMBOLIC GRAND LODGE OF HUNGARY

VW Bro Mark Walton ..... Past Grand Registrar

## UNITED GRAND LODGE OF NEW SOUTH WALES AND THE ACT

RW Bro Robert Peattie ..... Past Deputy Grand Master

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

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

## UNITED GRAND LODGES OF GERMANY (GRAND LODGE OF BRITISH FREEMASONS IN GERMANY)

MW Bro Michael A. Cooper ..... Past Grand Master

VW Bro Norbert Schoen ..... Junior Grand Warden

## GRAND LODGE OF THE STATE OF SÃO PAULO

MW Bro Geraldo de Souza Macedo ..... Honorary Grand Master

RW Bro Aleksandar Jovanovic ..... Grand Secretary on Foreign Affairs

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.



MW PRO GRAND MASTER: Brethren, how nice it is to see the Grand Temple so nearly full, you never fail.

Brethren, amongst you are over a hundred from Yorkshire, North and East Ridings, very precisely eighty-eight from Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire, forty from the Dorset Three Pillars Club and thirty from the Cheshire Master Masons Club. So well done to all of you and everybody else, thank you for being here.

## CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Quarterly Communication of 8 March 2017 and of the Annual Investiture of 26 April 2017 were taken as read and 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 RW Bro Dr M.R. AISH, PSGW, 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*

#### RULE 153 – CHEQUE SIGNATORIES

1. Rule 153 was amended in June 2013 to require that every cheque drawn on a Lodge's bank account be signed by two duly authorised members of the Lodge, of whom the Treasurer must, unless it is impracticable, be one. The Rule had previously permitted a Lodge to resolve that a single signatory should suffice.
2. The object of the amendment was to reduce the risk of misappropriation of funds, by requiring a second signatory in every case. The Board still considers that to have been an appropriate objective, but has noted that Lodges have experienced difficulty in relation to bank mandates in respect of a second signatory. The Board accordingly recommends that Rule 153(b) be amended to enable cheques to be authorised on the sole signature of the Treasurer. Notice of motion to amend the Book of Constitutions accordingly appears at item 10 of the paper of business.

#### ANNUAL DUES

3. 2018 The Board recommends, in accordance with Rule 269, Book of Constitutions, that the annual dues (including VAT) payable to Grand Lodge in respect of each member of every Lodge for the year 2018 shall be:

	£
In a Lodge in England and Wales that is unattached .....	61.00
In a Lodge in a Metropolitan Area or a Province .....	39.00
In a Lodge in a District .....	11.00
In a Lodge abroad not in a District .....	17.00

4. A Resolution to this effect appears at item 6(A) of the Paper of Business.

## FEES

5. 2018 The Board recommends, in accordance with Rule 270, Book of Constitutions, that the fees (exclusive of VAT) payable for registration, certificates and dispensations should be increased in line with inflation to:

(a) the Registration of	£
1. A Grand Officer, present and past, on first appointment .....	120.00
2. A Deputy or Assistant Metropolitan Grand Master or a Metropolitan Grand Inspector (under Rule 60) .....	68.00
3. A Deputy or Assistant Provincial or District Grand Master (under Rule 66) .....	68.00
4. A holder of Overseas Grand Rank (under Rule 93) .....	28.00
5. A Mason, inclusive of Grand Lodge Certificate (initiation, or joining from a Lodge not under the Grand Lodge)	
In a Lodge in England and Wales that is unattached .....	66.00
In a Lodge in a Metropolitan Area or a Province .....	59.00
In a Lodge in a District .....	37.00
In a Lodge abroad not under a District .....	49.00
(b) the replacement or amendment of a Grand Lodge Certificate .....	66.00
(c) a Certificate for a Serving Brother .....	37.00
(d) a Dispensation by the Grand Master .....	35.00
a Dispensation by the Grand Master 'nunc pro tunc' .....	70.00

6. A Resolution to put this into effect appears at item 6(B) of the Paper of Business.

## CONTRIBUTION TO THE MASONIC CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

7. Under Rule 271 of the Book of Constitutions Grand Lodge must fix each year the annual contribution that is payable to The Masonic Charitable Foundation. The Trustees of the Masonic Charitable Foundation have requested that for 2018 the annual contribution remain at £17 in respect of each member of a Lodge in a Metropolitan Area or a Province, or in England and Wales that is unattached. A Resolution to put this into effect appears at item 9 of the Paper of Business.

## PRESTONIAN LECTURES

(I) 2016

*Foundations: new light on the formation and early years of the Grand Lodge of England*

8. The Lecturer, W Bro Dr R.A. Berman, has informed the Board that in addition to the three official deliveries to Zetland and Hong Kong Lodge, No. 7665 (London); Bristol Installed Masters Lodge, No. 8168 (Bristol); and Temple of Athene Lodge, No. 9541 (Middlesex), the Lecture was also delivered on twenty-three other occasions throughout the Constitution. The Board desires to express its thanks to Bro Berman for the considerable time and effort he has spent in this connection.

(II) 2017

*The Grand Design*

9. The Prestonian Lecturer for 2017 is RW Bro Dr J.W. Daniel, PSGW.

10. Four official Prestonian Lectures for 2017 have been or will be given under the auspices of:

Lodge of the Grand Design, No. 6077 (Surrey)  
 Worcestershire Installed Masters' Lodge, No. 6889 (Worcestershire)  
 Old Elizabethans' Lodge, No. 8235 (East Lancashire)  
 The London Grand Rank Association

## AMALGAMATIONS

11. The Board has received reports that the following Lodges have resolved to surrender their Warrants:

- (a) Lodge of Dedication, No. 7428, in order to amalgamate with Excelsior Lodge, No. 1155 (London); and
- (b) Lodge of Concord, No. 7233, in order to amalgamate with Holloway Lodge, No. 2601 (London).

12. The Board accordingly recommends that the Lodges be removed from the register in order to effect the amalgamations. A Resolution to this effect appears at item 7 of the Paper of Business.

The Board of General Purposes regrets to record the death of the following Present and Past Grand Officers reported up to 16 May 2017:

RW Bro Sir Jayantilal Chande, *KBE*, OSM, PDistGM, East Africa

VW Bro the Rev J.R.D. Scarborough, PGChap

W Bro I.W. Fairclough, PDepGSuptWks

W Bro K.G. Twitchen, PSGD

W Bro N.B.D. Marshall, PSGD

W Bro T.N. Hunt, PSGD

W Bro A.H.P. Forse, PSGD

W Bro J.V. Tapster, PSGD

W Bro G.T. Herbert, PSGD

W Bro G.W. Hann, PSGD

W Bro G. Beacham, PJGD

W Bro G.M. Infield, PJGD

W Bro J.E. Bangerter, PJGD

W Bro B.S. Astell, PJGD

W Bro E.E. Green, PJGD

W Bro K.A. Forshaw, PJGD

W Bro L.W.G. Reynolds, PJGD

W Bro the Rt Hon Lord Soulsby of Swaffham Prior, PJGD

W Bro F.W. Fox, PJGD

W Bro V.T. Davis, PJGD

W Bro H. Brannick, PJGD

W Bro R.D.W. Laker, PJGD

W Bro D.K. Proctor, PJGD

W Bro L. Nicholson, *TD*, PJGD

W Bro R.J. Richardson, PJGD

W Bro L.M.P. Roff, PJGD

W Bro J.M. Grange, PJGD

W Bro W.J. Porter, PJGD

W Bro R.W. Davies, PJGD

W Bro the Rev W. Riley, PAGChap

W Bro the Rev T. Irvine, PAGChap

W Bro the Rev C.W. Calcott-James, PAGChap

W Bro the Rev D.M. Newman, PAGChap

W Bro E. Kenwright, *DFC*, *DFM*, PAGDC

W Bro E.J. Lawrence, PAGDC



Death of Grand Officers (*continued*)

W Bro D. Worthington, PAGDC  
W Bro M. Minter, PAGDC  
W Bro J.G. Kent, PAGDC  
W Bro A.R.A. Shephard, PAGDC  
W Bro A.H. Skein, PAGDC  
W Bro G. Murdoch, PAGDC  
W Bro J.F. Goodchild, PAGDC  
W Bro Dr R.H.G. Charles, *TD*, PAGDC  
W Bro O.T. Harvey, PAGDC  
W Bro E. Pritchard, PAGDC  
W Bro J.N. Tong, PAGDC  
W Bro H.K. Basu, PAGDC  
W Bro S.R. Nayler, PAGDC  
W Bro J.J. Parker, PAGDC  
W Bro D.C. Wyatt, PAGDC  
W Bro D.S. Briggs, PAGDC  
W Bro H. Turner, PAGDC  
W Bro H.B. Burnitt, PAGDC  
W Bro R. Warr, PAGSuptWks  
W Bro R.A. Read, PGStB  
W Bro H.S. Beard, *DFC*, PGStB  
W Bro L. Taylor, PGStB  
W Bro L.F. Van Wyk, PGStB  
W Bro C.W. Penny, PGStB  
W Bro L.J. Zanelli, PGStB  
W Bro H.R. Taylor, PGStB  
W Bro J.L. Gollow, PGStB  
W Bro A.A. Attfield, PGStB  
W Bro D.F. Cutler, PGStB  
W Bro B.E. Bines, PGStB  
W Bro S.L. Petty, PGStB  
W Bro B.L. Edwards, PAGStB

ERASURE OF LODGES

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

Addington Lodge, No. 1937 (KwaZulu-Natal)  
Lord Charles Beresford Lodge, No. 2404 (East Kent)  
Gwalia Lodge, No. 4213 (South Wales)  
Rosarium Lodge, No. 5147 (London)  
Horselydown Lodge, No. 5384 (London)  
Danson Park Lodge, No. 5700 (West Kent)  
Lodge of Assembly, No. 5747 (Warwickshire)  
Curfew Lodge, No. 5891 (London)  
Diligence Lodge, No. 5954 (Middlesex)  
Wilcumbestou Lodge, No. 6090 (Essex)  
Lodge of United Friendship, No. 6284 (East Kent)  
Trident Lodge, No. 6407 (Nottinghamshire)  
Cowley Lodge, No. 7571 (Middlesex)  
Latton Priory Lodge, No. 8402 (Essex)  
Gayton Lodge, No. 8640 (Cheshire)  
Lodge of Good Report, No. 8646 (Middlesex)  
Oakfield Park Lodge, No. 8671 (West Kent)  
Manor Abbey Lodge, No. 8873 (Worcestershire)  
Lewes Priory Lodge, No. 9201 (Sussex)  
Sure and Stedfast Lodge, No. 9365 (Worcestershire)

14. 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 8 of the Paper of Business.

EXPULSIONS

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

FREEMASONS' HALL, LONDON  
16 May 2017

*(signed)* A.C. WILSON  
President

DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES: MW Pro Grand Master and Brethren, I do not believe that anything in the Board's Report calls for any comment from me. I therefore move that the Report of the Board of General Purposes be adopted and entered in the Minutes.

The Motion was seconded by RW Bro Dr M.R. AISH, PSGW and was agreed to.

MW PRO GRAND MASTER: Brethren, the Board's Report lists the names of those Grand Officers whose deaths were reported up to 16 May, including RW Bro Sir Jayantilal Chande, *KBE*, always known as Andy, Past District Grand Master, East Africa, and Holder of the Grand Master's Order of Service to Masonry. I now call on you to stand in memory of those departed Grand Officers and other members of Grand Lodge.

The Brethren stood in silence.

## GRAND LODGE ACCOUNTS FOR 2016

DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES: MW Pro Grand Master and Brethren, I now present the Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2016. These show an operating surplus of £1.5 million compared to £851,000 in the previous year.

Operating income increased by some £1.1 million due in part to additional income from the receipt in 2016 of Grand Lodge dues from 2015 and an increase in investment income.

The increase in net operating expenditure of some £400,000 included some additional costs in respect of the upkeep of Freemasons' Hall, which were then reduced by the deferral of expenditure on Regent Street Disease treatment for this building, and we also had expenditure on preparations for the Tercentenary. In mentioning the expenditure for our Tercentenary I should like to stress that due to careful management of our financial resources these are treated as one off projects, which in line with our long standing accounting policy are borne out of investment income. I am pleased to say therefore that the costs of our celebrations which include payments to Provincial Grand Lodges for matched funding of Tercentenary activities, support of the new Masonic Memorial at the National Arboretum and the Shakespeare Garden in Stratford-upon-Avon will not be met from membership dues but rather from our own accumulated reserves.

Below the line this years accounts show a net benefit of £4.5 million including some £8.6 million from a revaluation of the investments and investment properties offset then by a charge of £4.1 million in respect of an actuarial adjustment for the increased pension fund liability.

Overall the balance sheet remains healthy with net funds in excess of £64 million. The President's Report and Notes in the accounts give further explanation of our results and balance sheet, which I shall not repeat here.

Lastly I would like to thank on your and the Board's behalf, all of the Grand Lodge staff for their continued hard work and the support that they gave in 2016 and also in anticipation of 2017 as they meet the challenges in supporting the additional activities and celebrations of Grand Lodge's Tercentenary.

If any Brother has any questions, then having recovered from the shock the Grand Treasurer and I will do our best to answer them.

MW PRO GRAND MASTER: There you are Brethren, now is your chance.

I think you are questionless.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES: MW Pro Grand Master and Brethren, I move that the Report and Accounts of the Grand Lodge for the year ended 31 December 2016 be received and adopted.

The Motion was seconded by RW Bro Dr M.R. AISH, PSGW and was agreed to.

## ELECTION OF GRAND LODGE AUDITORS

On the proposition of RW Bro G. IVES, Provincial Grand Master for Lincolnshire, seconded by RW Bro J. LOCKLEY, Provincial Grand Master for Staffordshire, Crowe Clark Whitehill, LLP, were re-elected auditors to Grand Lodge for the ensuing year.

## RESOLUTIONS FOR THE GRAND LODGE

On the Motion of the DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES, seconded by RW Bro Dr M.R. AISH, PSGW, the following resolutions were adopted.

### (A) ANNUAL DUES 2018

“That in pursuance of Rule 269, Book of Constitutions, Annual Dues (inclusive of VAT) for the Year 2018 shall be payable by every Lodge in respect of each member as follows:

	£
In a Lodge in England and Wales that is unattached .....	61.00
In a Lodge in a Metropolitan Area or a Province .....	39.00
In a Lodge in a District .....	11.00
In a Lodge abroad not in a District .....	17.00”

## (B) FEES 2018

“That in pursuance of Rule 270, Book of Constitutions, fees (exclusive of VAT) shall be payable to the Fund of General Purposes during the Year 2018 as follows:

(a) the Registration of	£
1. A Grand Officer, present and past, on first appointment .....	120.00
2. A Deputy or Assistant Metropolitan Grand Master or a Metropolitan Grand Inspector (under Rule 60) .....	68.00
3. A Deputy or Assistant Provincial or District Grand Master (under Rule 66) .....	68.00
4. A holder of Overseas Grand Rank (under Rule 93) .....	28.00
5. A Mason, inclusive of Grand Lodge Certificate (initiation, or joining from a Lodge not under the Grand Lodge)	
In a Lodge in England and Wales that is unattached .....	66.00
In a Lodge in a Metropolitan Area or a Province .....	59.00
In a Lodge in a District .....	37.00
In a Lodge abroad not under a District .....	49.00
(b) the replacement or amendment of a Grand Lodge Certificate .....	66.00
(c) a Certificate for a Serving Brother .....	37.00
(d) a Dispensation by the Grand Master .....	35.00
a Dispensation by the Grand Master ‘nunc pro tunc’ .....	70.00”

## RESOLUTION FOR THE GRAND LODGE

## AMALGAMATIONS

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

Lodge of Dedication, No. 7428 (London); and Lodge of Concord, No. 7233 (London).

The Motion was seconded by RW Bro Dr M.R. AISH, PSGW and was agreed to.

## 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 the following Lodges:

Addington Lodge, No. 1937 (KwaZulu-Natal); Lord Charles Beresford Lodge, No. 2404 (East Kent); Gwalia Lodge, No. 4213 (South Wales); Rosarium Lodge, No. 5147 (London); Horselydown Lodge, No. 5384 (London); Danson Park Lodge, No. 5700 (West Kent); Lodge of Assembly, No. 5747 (Warwickshire); Curfew Lodge, No. 5891 (London); Diligence Lodge, No. 5954 (Middlesex); Wilcumbestou Lodge, No. 6090 (Essex); Lodge of United Friendship, No. 6284 (East Kent); Trident Lodge, No. 6407 (Nottinghamshire); Cowley Lodge, No. 7571 (Middlesex); Latton Priory Lodge, No. 8402 (Essex); Gayton Lodge, No. 8640 (Cheshire); Lodge of Good Report, No. 8646 (Middlesex); Oakfield Park Lodge, No. 8671 (West Kent); Manor Abbey Lodge, No. 8873 (Worcestershire); Lewes Priory Lodge, No. 9201 (Sussex); and Sure and Stedfast Lodge, No. 9365 (Worcestershire).

The Motion was seconded by RW Bro Dr M.R. AISH, PSGW and was agreed to.

## ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE MASONIC CHARITABLE FOUNDATION 2018

On the Motion of the DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES, seconded by RW Bro Dr M.R. AISH, PSGW, the following resolution was adopted.

“That in pursuance of Rule 271, Book of Constitutions, there shall be payable to The Masonic Charitable Foundation in respect of every member of a Lodge in a Metropolitan Area or a Province, or in England and Wales that is unattached, for the year 2018 a contribution of not less than £17.

(No payment is due in respect of members of Lodges overseas)”

## NOTICE OF MOTION

### AMENDMENT TO THE BOOK OF CONSTITUTIONS

DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES: MW Pro Grand Master and Brethren, I give notice that at the next Quarterly Communication of this Grand Lodge, the President will move the amendment to the Book of Constitutions standing in his name at item 10 of the Paper of Business:

That Rule 153(b) be amended to read:

“(b) The Treasurer, if available to do so, shall make such payments as are duly authorised, or have been sanctioned by the Lodge. All cheques must bear the signature of the Treasurer and (unless the Lodge resolves to the contrary) at least one other member authorised by the Lodge, provided that if it be impracticable for the Treasurer to sign any cheque it shall be sufficient for such cheque to bear the signature of two members authorised by the Lodge.”

### 1717 – FOUNDATION AND FORMATION

MW PRO GRAND MASTER: Brethren, we are now to receive a presentation on the Formation of Grand Lodge, and I call on the Deputy Grand Chancellor, VW Bro J.M. Hamill, PGSwdB.

DEPUTY GRAND CHANCELLOR (VW Bro J.M. HAMILL, PGSwdB): MW Pro Grand Master and Brethren. At a dinner party last year the conversation turned to the idea of time travel and, were it to become possible, which period we would like to go back to. I said that, for something I was involved in professionally, I would like to go back to a specific day and location in London to meet and ask questions of a particular group of people and that I would like to bring some of them to our time today to see what they had given birth to on that day.

It will not surprise you to learn that the date I selected was St. John's Day in Summer, the 24th June, in the year 1717 and the location was the Goose and Gridiron Tavern in St. Paul's Churchyard. As we know, on that day representatives of four London Lodges came together elected a Grand Master and Grand Wardens and resolved to “revive” the Annual Feast and Quarterly Communications which it was claimed had fallen into desuetude due to the neglect of Sir Christopher Wren when Grand Master. As we also know today, that resolution was based on a pious fiction as there is no evidence for there having been any Grand Lodge or any Grand Master before 1717.

To us, with the benefit of hindsight, the meeting on 24 June 1717 was a momentous and historical event, but put into the context of the time a different picture emerges. One of the problems of dealing with 1717 and the first few years of the Grand Lodge is the lack of hard facts to work with. It was not until 1723 and the appointment of William Cowper, Clerk of the Parliaments, as Secretary to the Grand Lodge that Minutes began to be kept. Of the four Lodges which came together to elect a Grand Master in 1717, there are still three working today – the Lodge of Antiquity, the Royal Somerset House and Inverness Lodge and the Lodge of Fortitude and Old Cumberland – but their early Minutes have been long lost so that, with the exception of those elected to the Offices of Grand Master and Grand Wardens we have no records of whom their members were in the years 1717 – 1725, when the Grand Lodge first called for Lodges to submit lists of their members, or who attended the meeting on 24 June 1717. What we can deduce from secondary evidence is that the meeting was not a huge assembly. The Goose and Gridiron Tavern survived until the late 1890s and just before it was demolished an enterprising Masonic historian drew sketches of its exterior and measured the room in which the Grand Lodge was formed. The room would have held less than a hundred people who would have had to stand very close to each other to fit into the room!

Our primary source for what happened in those early years is the history of the Craft with which Rev'd Dr James Anderson prefaced the Rules governing Freemasonry in the second edition of the Book of Constitutions he published on behalf of Grand Lodge in 1738. Because Anderson's history of the Craft before 1717 is more than somewhat suspect some historians have cast doubts on his description of the events in Grand Lodge from 1717 – 1738. What they forget is that he compiled it on behalf of the Grand Lodge and that it was vetted by a Committee of the Grand Lodge before it went into print. Although writing 20 years after the events of 1717 there would still have been brethren around who were involved in those early years, not least Rev'd Dr John Theophilus Desaguliers, Grand Master in 1719 and Deputy Grand Master in 1722, 1723 and 1725, who would have been very quick to point out any errors of fact in Anderson's comments on the Grand Lodge.

From Anderson's account in its first years the Grand Lodge met only for the Annual Assembly and Grand Feast to elect the Grand Master and Grand Wardens. From two other sources we can deduce that the Grand Lodge began to act as a regulatory body in 1720. Both the 1723 and 1738 editions of the Book of Constitutions include a postscript describing the ancient manner of constituting a new Lodge as practised by the Grand Master, George Payne in 1720. A very rare Masonic book entitled "The Book M or Masonry Triumphant" published by a Brother Leonard Umphreville in Newcastle upon Tyne in 1736 includes a report of a meeting of Grand Lodge in 1720 in which a Code of Rules for the government of the Craft compiled by the then Grand Master, George Payne, was adopted. The report



was followed by the list of 39 Rules, which formed the basis of the Rules printed in the first edition of the Book of Constitutions published in 1723.

Some have questioned why there were no press reports of the event in 1717, but they have been looking at the past with the eyes of the present. In 1717 Freemasonry was largely unknown. The late 17th and 18th centuries were a great age of Societies and Clubs many of them meeting in taverns and the growing network of fashionable coffee houses in the Cities of London and Westminster. If noticed at all, the formation of Grand Lodge would have been seen as just another such society. It was not until the early 1720s when Past Grand Masters, George Payne and Dr Desaguliers began to attract members of the nobility and the Royal Society into Freemasonry that the press of the day began to notice it, reporting on the initiations of prominent men of the day and the annual Grand Feasts of Grand Lodge.

It was not until 1723 that the Grand Lodge became fully established as a regulatory body as we know today. By that year in addition to the keeping of Minutes and the publication of the first Book of Constitutions the Grand Lodge had extended its authority outside the Cities of London and Westminster issuing deputations to constitute Lodges in the Provinces and bringing into the fold some independent Lodges that had been meeting quietly in the northern provinces. The Rules compiled by Grand Master Payne in 1720 and published in the Book of Constitutions in 1723 introduced the concept of regularity, stating that no new Lodge would be countenanced unless it had been personally constituted by the Grand Master or a Brother deputed by the Grand Master to act for him.

At a conference sponsored by our premier Lodge of Research, Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076, at The Queen's College, Cambridge, last September two academics gave a paper suggesting that we were celebrating four years too early and casting doubts on the meeting in 1717. Having carefully studied their paper my response is that old fashioned polite English expletive: balderdash! (*Laughter*) Their thesis seems to boil down to an academic semantic argument as to what constituted a Grand Lodge. They appear to think that we were not a Grand Lodge until 1721 because there is no evidence for any attempt at regulation before that date. It is beyond doubt to my mind that at the meeting on 24 June 1717, Anthony Sayer, Capt. John Elliot and Jacob Lamball were, respectively, elected Grand Master and Senior and Junior Grand Wardens – officers of a Grand Lodge. The academics appear to believe that, like Athene springing fully armed from the head of Zeus, for the meeting in 1717 to be accepted as the formation of a Grand Lodge it should have immediately acted as a regulatory body. Brethren, life rarely works that way!

In talking of time travel I said I would like to bring back from 1717 some of those involved in the meeting on 24 June. In their wildest imaginings they could not have envisaged what their simple and small meeting would give birth to: a world

wide fraternity of regular Freemasonry spread over the whole world. They would have found some things that they would recognise from their practice of Freemasonry but would also have found much that was very different. Over the last 300 years Freemasonry has developed and expanded in ways they could not have imagined. What English Freemasonry has demonstrated over the last 300 years is that it is a living organisation capable of changing its outward forms and adapting itself to the society in which it currently exists. It has had a wonderful knack of making those changes without in any way changing those fundamental and inalienable principles and tenets on which Freemasonry was founded and which would certainly be recognised by those who met in 1717. The more I study our ancient Craft the more I am convinced that whatever problems we may face from time to time, provided that we maintain that delicate balance between managed change and not altering our basic principles and tenets, Freemasonry will ride over those problems and future generations will be able to enjoy its fellowship and privileges, as we and the many generations that have gone before us have done since that happy day in 1717 on which Grand Lodge was born.

MW PRO GRAND MASTER: Brethren, we all know what an expert Brother Hamill is on our Freemasonry, a lot of you won't know that the rest of the world considers him an expert on their Freemasonry as well. So we really are lucky to have John in our midst and be able to give us talks such as that. So, thank you very, very much, John.

*(Applause)*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

W Bro John Mark Clark, PSGD, as Provincial Grand Master for Buckinghamshire, in succession to RW Bro Gordon Robertson, who will retire on 31 October. Bro Clark will be installed on a date to be arranged.

W Bro Ernest Gideon Malherbe, PJGD, as District Grand Master for South Africa, Western Division, in succession to RW Bro James Duggan, who will retire on 2 March 2018. Bro Malherbe will be installed on a date to be arranged.

## WELCOME

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

From the Grand Lodge Alpina of Switzerland, we have, our Representative at that Grand Lodge, W Bro Colin Mills;

from the Symbolic Grand Lodge of Hungary, VW Bro Mark Walton, Past Grand Registrar;

from the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales and the ACT, RW Bro Robert Peattie, Past Deputy Grand Master;

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 the State of São Paulo, MW Bro Geraldo de Souza Macedo, Honorary Grand Master; he is accompanied by the Grand Secretary on Foreign Affairs, RW Bro Aleksandar Jovanovic;

from the United Grand Lodges of Germany, MW Bro Michael Cooper, Past Grand Master of one of its constituent Grand Lodges, the Grand Lodge of British Freemasons in Germany; he is accompanied by the Junior Grand Warden, VW Bro Norbert Schoen; and

from France – but here in his capacity as a Past Junior Grand Warden of this Grand Lodge – RW Bro Jean-Claude Tardivat.

From our own Constitution, we have, from Gibraltar, the District Grand Master, RW Bro Alfred H. Ryan;

from Ghana, the District Grand Master, RW Bro Isaac O. Hood;

from Hong Kong and the Far East, RW Bro David A. Fok, Past District Grand Master; he is accompanied by the Deputy District Grand Master, VW Bro Herman H.C. Tsoi, PGSwdB, and four other Brethren;

from Nigeria, VW Bro Babatunde A. Johnson, PGSwdB, Past Deputy District Grand Master;

from South America, Southern Division, W Bro Ernesto A. Marcer, PAGReg;

from East Africa, W Bro Basil J.W. Soundy, PGStB;

from Eastern Archipelago, W Bro Mirza K. Namazie, PAGStB; and

from Trinidad and Tobago, W Bro Stephen Cobham, Past District Senior Grand Warden.

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.

## PRO GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS

MW PRO GRAND MASTER: Brethren, as we approach the 24th June 2017, the actual date of our Tercentenary Anniversary, it is very fitting that at this meeting we look back on our history with pride. John Hamill, in his inimitable style, has reminded us of the debt we owe to the Time Immemorial Lodges whose foresight set us on our current path and The Grand Master will be unveiling a plaque recognising this next week. Whilst mentioning the Grand Master it is fitting to remember the debt we owe him and recognise that today is fifty years to the day since he was elected as our Grand Master. How fortunate we have been.

*(Applause)*

We also congratulate W Bro Cyril McGibbon, PSGD, who's 105th birthday it is today. He still attends every meeting, rather appropriately, of the Lodge of Perseverance, No. 155 and recently proposed the toast to the Ladies at their last Ladies' Night Evening, there is hope for all of you Brethren.

*(Laughter)*

On the 18th April we remembered all our Brethren who have fallen since 1945 in the service of their country by opening the Masonic Memorial Garden at the National Memorial Arboretum and, a week later, in the presence of The Grand Master, we remembered with pride those of our Brethren awarded the Victoria Cross in the First World War in a magnificent ceremony outside the Tower Entrance to Freemasons' Hall. For those unable to witness that event a DVD has been produced, the proceeds of which will be donated to the Victoria Cross and George Cross Association.

And so, as we look back with pride, we must look forward with confidence, recognising that we are a real force for good in society and have so much to contribute to it. The Sky TV programme has given us an amazing platform and viewing figures have been good. The series has been well received and our Provinces are reporting a real upsurge of interest which I know you are capitalising on in order to secure our future. In addition, Brethren, I believe it has enabled us to be aware of how important it is to talk openly about our Freemasonry and, perhaps, even how best to do so. For those without Sky TV, a DVD has been produced which is available in the Letchworth's shop as from today.

Brethren, as Pro Grand Master, it is very encouraging, yet humbling, to witness just how much effort you are all putting in to promoting our Masonic values and making this Tercentenary year such a tremendous success. I congratulate you all. Your charitable giving never ceases to amaze me and, at the recent Sussex Festival for The Grand Charity, a magnificent total of over £3.6 million was raised. This has been followed by the West Yorkshire Festival for the RMBI, which raised over £3.3 million. These are fantastic results and, Brethren, I now have firm figures which

show that last year we not only supported our own Brethren with over £15 million of grants, but helped non-Masonic Charities with grants in excess of £17 million.

*(Applause)*

Brethren, this year the nation has been rocked by a number of serious terrorist attacks at Westminster Bridge, the Manchester Arena and at London Bridge. You should be aware that we have received numerous letters of support and concern from other Sovereign Grand Lodges around the world, some enclosing generous cheques to the East Lancashire Fund which have supplemented the extreme generosity shown by many towards this fund and I have been assured by the Provincial Grand Master that the money will be spent wisely where need is identified. Thank you so much.

Brethren, whilst congratulating you on all your efforts, I must pay tribute to my fellow Rulers who have been globe-trotting on our behalf. The Deputy Grand Master has paid a second visit to India this year, this time to attend the District of Northern India's Tercentenary celebrations having previously been to Bombay and then followed this by attending a Regional Conference in Jamaica. The Assistant Grand Master, as President of the Universities' Scheme, invaded South Africa with a strong team. He followed this, immediately after our Grand Investiture, with a Gala Lunch and Banner Dedication in Malta. As a past Ruler, David Williamson kindly represented us in Gibraltar and just to show that I have not been sitting idly by, I have just returned from a most enjoyable visit to our District in The Eastern Archipelago having previously visited Bermuda for the Bi-Centenary of their Lodge of Loyalty.

Carrying out these visits is a great privilege and our Brethren in the District really value our presence and have great pride in being members of the oldest Grand Lodge. Their hospitality is most generous as they try to kill us with their kindness. Sleep is rarely on the agenda.

Brethren, many of you here today, in fact I think the majority of you, are wearing the Tercentenary jewel and I have been impressed by the "take up" of them particularly in the Districts. Now that we have overcome the supply problem I hope you will encourage Members of your Lodges to acquire one if they have not already done so.

That brings me neatly on to the subject of the very fine Tercentenary Master's collar ornament. I have one Brethren, but you won't be able to see it. Many Masters' collars display the 250th and or 275th jewel and as from 24th June, surely the 300th would be more appropriate and if Lodges are not displaying any jewel then surely now is the time to show pride in having reached this Landmark. It is a very fine silver gilt ornament and whilst I have one here, the best way for you to see it is to visit the Toye Kenning & Spencer website, and you can also order one, Brethren.

Finally, Brethren, at this meeting, I normally tell you to enjoy the Summer Break and come back refreshed which, of course, I hope you will. But, the number of events between now and September is staggering. May I suggest that you enjoy them and use them to reinvigorate our Lodges. I feel immensely proud to be leading such a vibrant organisation at this time.

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 12.44 p.m.

### RECORDED ATTENDANCE AT THE GRAND LODGE

Grand Officers (including Present Grand Stewards) .....	535
Masters, Wardens and Past Masters .....	533
Master Masons not qualified as Wardens .....	50
Visitors .....	8
Total .....	<u>1126</u>

## APPENDIX

## 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>28 April 2017</b>	
Martyn Bloomfield	L6444
Daren Christopher Coates	L1193
Jeremy Evan Foale	L3337
Ian Michael Heed	L8466 (C8446), (C8966)
Andrew John Leslie	L2655
Matt Matharu	L4965
Kenneth Price	L3242, L9255 (C1119)
Paul David Smith	L461, L6322

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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>8 March 2017</i>		
9944 Lodge of XV	Braintree	Essex
9945 Buckinghamshire Classic Car Lodge	Beaconsfield	Buckinghamshire
<i>27 April 2017</i>		
9946 Berkshire Lodge of Enlightenment	Sindlesham	Berkshire
9947 Constructors' Lodge	Sindlesham	Berkshire

