



NORTHUMBERLAND MARK

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF NORTHUMBERLAND

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RWBRO. GORDON CRAIGS
PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

WBRO. GLEN GALLOWAY
EDITOR.

WBRO. STEPHEN YOUNG
COPY.

AUTUMN 2014.

A NEW ASSISTANT PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER

At the Masonic Hall

Alnwick on Wednesday 15th October 2014, our newly appointed Asst. Provincial Grand Master WBro. Stuart Cairns PAGDC was invested. The ceremony was held at WBro. Stuart's Mother Mark Lodge, Hotspur with Coquetdale No. 135.

WBro. Stuart said that " This was a great honour for me as I had first served in the Chair of Hotspur No. 135 in 2003 and I was in the Chair of both Hotspur Lodge and Coquetdale Lodge No. 1115 when the two Lodges amalgamated in 2007. A memorable occasion for me personally and one which I am sure was enjoyed by all of those Mark Master Masons who attended".



He went on to say "I am looking forward to serving RWBro. Gordon, Provincial Grand Master and the Mark and Mariner Lodges through-out the Province of Northumberland in my role as Asst. Provincial Grand Master".

At the Annual Meeting held at The Masonic Hall at Byker, RWBro. Craigs announced that

WBro. Ian Dagleish Daniel, PGJO had stepped down as Asst. Provincial Grand Master.

RWBro. Craigs thanked WBro. Daniel for his support through-out the last five years and looked forward to his continuing support within the Province.



Your Newsletter needs YOU !!

This is your new Colour Provincial Newsletter. New style, New look and New features!

What we need is Your stories, Your events, Your Photos and most of all Your contribution!

Are You celebrating within your Lodge, have You got something to tell the Province. Just let us Know, contact details on page 4.

THE ADONIRAM LODGE OF INSTALLED MARK MASTERS, NO. 1483

In 1993 I was Installed as Master of the Risingham Lodge No. 1033. I was given a copy of the "Constitutions and Regulations", and in there, listed under Northumberland, I learned of the existence of Adoniram. I wondered if it was being kept a bit of a secret, where only very senior Masons were welcome. As I was to discover, I couldn't have been more wrong. Nervously, I approached the late WBro. Bill Crow who then wasted no time in getting me across for a visit.

I was treated to a very interesting lecture which I remember fondly to this very day, and found all the members to be totally open and friendly. In no time at all I was a member.

To this day I cannot understand why more installed Masters from around the Province do not come and at least visit Adoniram and see if it might interest them. I will take this opportunity to try and influence the Provincial policy makers so that when a PGM's representative attends an Installation, he might point out that the newly installed Master is now eligible to join Adoniram, and if he is a bit busy just at the moment, then his IPM could consider it.

You never hear greetings being given from Adoniram; I am told there is an unwritten rule that only the Master can give Adoniram's greetings. I wonder if this is really true or whether, as in Health and Safety where so many "rules" go into legend whether based on fact or fiction, it is based on fantasy. Another of these unwritten rules is that we are not supposed to stand for greetings more than once, and as we are all members of another Mark Lodge in the Province, we are likely to be called upon to give that Lodge's greetings first.

However, at the time of writing this, I am the Master, and so would take this opportunity to offer fraternal greetings to each and every Mark Lodge in the Province, and invite your members, whether installed or not, to visit us and to experience some of the interesting talks that are given.

Now, just in case this little article has stimulated a great deal of interest, and that you will all be arriving by the coach load, we would need to know for catering purposes, and an intimation of wishing to dine can be sent to WBro. John Shaw at shaw-john@hotmail.co.uk. We meet on the 2nd Friday in Nov (Inst), Mar & June at Blyth with a 7.00pm start.

Inside this issue:

New Asst. Prov. GM	1
Adoniram Lodge of Installed Mark Masters	1
PGM's Address to Prov. Annual Meeting.	2
Northumberland Mark & RAM Calendar	3
Provincial Officers for 2014 - 2015.	4
MBF Honors and future events	4
Contact details.	4

PGM ADDRESS AT THE MARK PROVINCIAL ANNUAL MEETING

Good morning brethren I would once again like to thank you all for coming and supporting this occasion....

As you are all aware we moved to this building last year for our Annual Provincial Meeting, not without some trepidation on my behalf. The move proved to be a great hit and we were almost a victim of our own success.

I would like to especially welcome our guests, many of who have travelled considerable distances to be with us today. It is with great pleasure I again welcome RWBro. Smith. Some years ago the Deputy Grand Master, RWBro. Emmer-son, asked if we could send him an invite to join us at this meeting. Naturally I agreed and an invitation was issued. Sometime later I received word that the Deputy had drawn the short straw and was being sent to Vienna on Masonic business. I'm sure that given the choice RWBro. Emmerson would have been with us rather than go to Vienna. However it does mean we have the pleasure of the company of RWBro. Smith.

Once again in the summer TI Lodge made use of their travelling warrant and held their meeting in Hexham which was a great success with over fifty brethren dining at the festive board and all money raised during the night went to the benevolent fund. My thanks go to the members of TI, particularly WBro. Paddy Watters, for organising the event. I understand that it is their intention to hold a meeting in the east of the county in 2015 and I hope it is as well supported as this year's meeting.

I would like to take this opportunity to mention two members who have recently passed to the Grand Lodge above, both of whom had a substantial influence over the Province in their own way. RWBro. George Newton Fletcher who was one of the old school PGM's and led this Province between 1991 and 1999. He was a larger than life character who had firm masonic beliefs.

WBro. David Cummins was a member of a number of Mark and Royal Ark Mariner Lodges in the Province. I was first introduced to WBro. Cummins in 2000 as we both had a mutual interest in beekeeping. He had extremely strong views and could always be relied upon for an interesting and lively discussion. His faith was deep which I am sure helped him during his period of ill health

On a brighter note I would now like to mention those brethren who were appointed to and promoted in Grand Lodge at the meeting last June. A number of brethren travelled down to London and I am certain a good time was had by all. First of all it would be remiss of me not to mention RWBro. Smith who was appointed as Assistant Grand Master. From our own Province WBro. Colin Reader was appointed Past Asst. Grand Sword Bearer, WBro. Eames was appointed to the rank of Past Grand Standard Bearer and WBro. Jim Oliver was appointed Past Asst. Grand Director of Ceremonies. Promoted to Past Grand Junior Deacons were WBro's John Moralee and Bill Surtees. Last but not least our Treasurer, WBro. Norman Reeve was appointed a Grand Steward.

Earlier in the year the second golf match between the Craft and the Mark was held at Blyth Golf course. Brethren I have to admit that the Mark team were once again beaten and the party last year by the Mark Captain to lull the Craft team into a false sense of security did not work. Can I thank WBro's Ian Daniel and Eric Longstaff for organising the event and all of the players for taking part.

For those whom I have just appointed to or promoted in Provincial Grand Rank today marks an important stage in, but not I hasten to add, a conclusion, to their Masonic careers and duties. They now have a greater responsibility to work diligently for the good of their Lodge as well as the Province. I will ask the Wardens and Overseers visit as many Lodges as they can not only to make themselves known to the brethren but also to assist in the ceremonies whenever called upon.

As you know brethren WBro. Ian Daniel has stepped down as Asst. Provincial Grand Master and I would like to put on record my sincere thanks for the work he has done over the past five years. We have travelled many miles together visiting various provinces and I valued his support and I look forward to his continued support.

Another member of the team stepping down after many years of dedicated service

is the Dep. Director of Ceremonies, WBro. David Richardson. David has been in poor health for the last couple of years and ongoing heart problems. I am sure we all wish David improved health for the future.

I now turn to the delivery of ritual. For many years my predecessor and I have repeatedly stated that ritual should not be read and for those of you that have read our Craft Pro Grand Master's article in Freemasonry Today he is of the same opinion. No brother should be made to think that he has to do all of the Master's work himself unless he is willing and able to do so....

Having mentioned our Craft Pro Grand Master I will refer to his comment that only 35% of craft masons in this province are members of the Royal Arch. The comparison between membership of the Mark and Mariners is not too wide of that figure. We have one of the lowest membership rates in the country and it is something I intend rectifying. I started the ball rolling earlier this year by asking all mark lodge secretaries to send out a letter from me to all of their members who were not mariners asking them to give serious consideration to joining.... I would ask you to ask yourself a question. Not why should I join the mariners but why shouldn't I join the mariners?

During the course of the year the benevolent committee again organised four fund raising events for which I am most grateful. At these events we were both well fed and entertained with substantial sums of money being raised for worthy and worthwhile local charities details of which were given in the Benevolent Fund Account. WBro. Keith Thomson stepped down as chairman of the committee this year and I wish to place on record my heartfelt thanks to him for the sterling job he has done for many years and thousands of pounds he has helped to raise. WBro. Tom Grey has taken over the chairmanship from him and I wish Tom along with the other members of the committee every success in the future.

It has now come to the time when I must draw my address to a close.

"May the Great Overseer of the Universe have you in his keeping now and for evermore."

Province	Of	Northumberland	Mark	Master	Mason	Lodges								
2015														
			Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
		Day												
Northumberland & Berwick	T.I.	Byker	4th Wed	25	25	22					23	28	25*	
Hotspur with Coquetdale	135	Alnwick	3rd Wed	18		15*						21		16
St. Cuthbert	192	Berwick	3rd Wed	21	18		20*				16		18	
Tristram	346	Neville Hall	2nd Tue	10	10							13*	10	8
Gosforth	463	Wallsend	4th Mon	23		27					28*	26	23	
Hartford	546	Bedlington	2nd Tue	13	10	10		12*			8		10	
Blagdon	547	Blyth	1st Wed	4	4	1*						7		2
Morpeth	691	Morpeth	3rd Thu	19		16						15		17*
Thomas Purvis	702	Maple Terrace	4th Mon	26		23	25				28*			
Unity	708	Byker	2nd Thu		12	9*						8	12	
Haven	750	North Shields	2nd Mon	9		13*						12		14
Amble	780	Amble	4th Wed			25*	27				23		25	
Whitley	788	Whitley Bay	4th Wed			25	22				23		25*	
Ashington	890	Ashington	1st Thu		5*	2		4				1		3
Carville	968	Byker	1st Fri		6	3*						2		4
Risingham	1033	Bellingham	2nd Tue			10		9			8	13*		
Purcell	1036	Maple Terrace	2nd Wed			11	8					14	11*	
Newgate	1141	Byker	1st Mon		2	6*						5		7
Grainger	1147	Wallsend	4th Fri	23	27	27	24				25*			
Nepos	1155	Byker	3rd Tue			18*	19				16		18	
Hexham	1161	Hexham	2nd Wed		11	8		10*				14		9
Backworth	1189	Shiremoor	2nd Tue			10	14				8	13	10*	
Cramlington	1235	Cramlington	3rd Mon			16	20	18			21*			
De Umfraville	1270	Mickiey	2nd Mon			9		11				12*		14
Haltwhistle	1278	Haltwhistle	3rd Thu			19	16	21				15*		
De La Val	1290	Seaton Delavai	2nd Thu	8		12	14				10*		12	
Adoniram	1483	Blyth	2nd Fri			13		12					13*	
George Stephenson	1527	Wylam	1st Thu			5		7*			3		5	
Farne	1540	Alnwick	4th Fri		27		24	26*				23		
Ponteland	1550	Memorial Hall, Ponteland	Last Thu	29			30					29*		
Newbiggin-by-the-Sea	1756	Newbiggin	1st Mon			2*					7	5	2	
Orientai	1890	Ferne Avenue	1st Mon			2		1				5*		

Royal Ark Mariner Lodges

* = Installation date

2015														
			Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
		Day												
Northumberland & Berwick	T.I.	Cramlington	3rd Wed	21			20	17*					18	
Hotspur	135	Alnwick	4th Thu		25		27			23		25*		
St. Cuthbert	192	Berwick	1st Wed				6				7*			
Tristram	346	Neville Hall	2nd Tue	13		14				8*				
Hartford	546	Bedlington	3rd Wed		18*	15		17				21		16
Blagdon	547	Blyth	4th Thu	22	26		28*						26	
Morpeth	691	Morpeth	2nd Wed	14	11*					9			11	
Haven	750	North Shields	2nd Mon	12	9*								9	
Whitley	788	Whitley Bay	1st Tue		3		5*					6		
Ashington	890	Ashington	1st Thu		5		7*			3			5	
Carville	968	Byker	1st Fri	2	6*								6	
Newgate	1141	Byker	1st Mon		2*						7		2	
Hexham	1161	Hexham	3rd Fri			20	16					16*		
Backworth	1189	Shiremoor	2nd Tue		10		12*						8	
De La Val	1290	Seaton Delaval	5th Thu	29		30								
De La Val	1290	Seaton Delaval	4th Thu							27*				
Triangle	1483	Bedlington	2nd Fri		13						11*			
Triangle	1483	RAMAGM	1st Tues			7								
Farne	1540	Alnwick	3rd Fri			20*				21			18	

Provincial Officers 2014-15

RWBro G Craigs.....	PGM
VWBro. F C Main.....	DPGM
WBro. S Cairns.....	APGM
WBro. A M White.....	Senior Warden
WBro. P Cook.....	Junior Warden
WBro. G McGill.....	Master Overseer
WBro. G J Galloway.....	Senior Overseer
WBro. G M Seedall.....	Junior Overseer
WBro. S Young.....	Chaplain
WBro. N H Reeve.....	Treasurer
WBro. J H Dunford.....	Registrar
WBro. D Moses.....	Secretary
WBro. L F Francis.....	Dir. Ceremony
WBro. B Hegarty.....	Inspector of Works
WBro. G J Morrison.....	Sword Bearer
WBro. J Hannon.....	Dep. Chaplain
WBro. C Allan.....	Dep. Secretary
WBro. W F Walton.....	Dep. Dir. of Ceremonies
WBro. P C Watters.....	Senior Deacon
WBro. B Rudd.....	Senior Deacon
WBro. M Saint.....	Junior Deacon
WBro. J Barlow.....	Junior Deacon
WBro. C Narey.....	Charity Steward
WBro. C W Robson.....	Asst. Secretary
WBro. J Spearman.....	Asst. Dir. of Ceremonies
WBro. W Tindle.....	Asst. Dir. of Ceremonies
VWBro. M D E Auld.....	Almoner
WBro. S Matthews.....	Asst. Almoner
WBro. R Northey.....	Organist
WBro. T A Boswell.....	Standard Bearer
WBro. A Gauld.....	Inner Guard
Bro. F Innes.....	Steward
WBro. W H Gibson.....	Tyler

PAST RANK FIRST APPOINTMENTS

WBro. A Hall.....	Senior Deacon
WBro. W T Barber.....	Junior Deacon

PROMOTIONS

WBro. J Spearman.....	Senior Warden
WBro. J Pearson.....	Junior Warden
WBro. D Kerr.....	Master Overseer
WBro. C Willis.....	Master Overseer
WBro. W Percy.....	Senior Overseer
WBro. G E Henderson.....	Senior Overseer
WBro. J H Mowat.....	Junior Overseer
WBro. G Hall.....	Registrar
WBro. N Topping.....	Registrar
WBro. P Tate.....	Sword Bearer

Mark Benevolent Fund (MBF) Recognizes Member Donations.

The following brethren have been presented with Jewels or Collarettes since the last issue of the newsletter, recognizing their contributions to the MBF via the NMBF for which the Trustees of both funds are extremely grateful. At the annual meeting on 27/09/14 the RW Asst. Grand Master made particular comment about the significant level of support coming from our Province for the MBF and Commended the generosity of our members for this very worthy cause.

Life Subscribers

Geoff Young	1161
Joe Watson	TI
Alex Finlay	463
John Dunford	547
Frank Lake	1235
Neville Topping	1290
Steven Matchett	1527
Stephen Dresser	1890

Vice Patrons

Brian Ruderman	708
John Park	TI
Brian Atkinson	547
John McNeil	708
Richard Eames	890
Ian Gibbs	890
Fred Main	1033
Philip Barsack	1278
Colin Phelps	1527

Patrons

Richard Whiteley	750
Jim McIntyre	750
Alastair Bennie	788
John Bruce.	1141

Grand Patrons

Brian Sandells	TI
John Tomlin	691
Alan Sheret	1189

Grand Patron Gold

Tony Briggs	968
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In Support of the Cystic Fibrosis Trust.

The fund raising committee of the NMBF held their annual July BBQ Social Event at the Blue Flame Club on 12/07/14 and the event, as usual, proved very popular. The committee wishes to thank all of those who attended to help make the event such a success.

This year's event was in support of the Cystic Fibrosis trust and on the evening £676 was raised for this very worthwhile cause. As usual the NMBF doubled this amount and a cheque was drawn in favour of the Trust for £1350. The cheque was presented formally to the representatives of the Trust and it was very gratefully received.

Forthcoming fundraising events for 2015.

7th Feb Social, Corbridge Rd, Byker Masonic Hall. Social evening with entertainment for NMBF funds.

11th Apr—Curry and Wine Evening, Wallsend Masonic Hall. For Guide Dogs for the Blind.

11th Jul - BBQ, Blue Flame Club, Whitley Rd, Benton. For Multiple System Atrophy Trust.

3rd Oct - Italian Night, Casa Antonio, Whitley Rd, Benton. For NMBF funds.

Book your places early with any of the following contacts:

Tom Grey	0191 2892209
Graham Rowley	0191 2950533
Colin Narey	0191 2403738
Peter Rowland	0191 2891062
Keith Thomson	0191 2840754
Dave Richardson	0191 2844485
Geoff Todd	0191 2954858

Contact Details

WBro. Glen J.Galloway,
The School House, Chesters Ave,
Longbenton,
Newcastle upon Tyne. NE12 8QP.
TEL: 0191 2660716

glenjgalloway@talktalk.net



Tony's GPG Collarette was presented to him by the RW Asst. Grand Master personally at the Mark Annual Meeting on 27th September 2014, and Tony was genuinely surprised to receive this recognition of his efforts. WBro. Colin Narey PAGDC Prov. Grand Charity Steward had held Tony's collarette for some little while, but hadn't made Tony aware of this, knowing that the Asst. Grand Master intended being at our Annual Meeting and in anticipation that he would wish to present it. The Asst. Grand Master congratulated Tony for his very generous support of the MBF and went on to cover some of the good work that such contributions allow the MBF to do.