



NORTHUMBERLAND MARK

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RWBRO. GORDON CRAIGS
PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

WBRO. GLEN GALLOWAY
EDITOR.

WBRO. STEPHEN YOUNG
COPY.

AUTUMN 2015.

NEW DEPUTY AND ASSISTANT PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTERS

At Hartford Lodge of MMM No. 546 on Tuesday 1st September 2015, the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, RWBro. Gordon Craigs was pleased to invest WBro. Stuart Cairns GJD as Deputy Provincial Grand Master, after the retirement of VWBro. Fred Main.

The Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master also had the pleasure of investing WBro. Richard Northey PAGDC as Asst. Provincial Grand Master in his Mother Lodge of Hartford, Bedlington. Richard said he was so proud and honoured to be invested as the Asst. Provincial Grand Master. WBro. Richard went on to say "Now that I'm in semi retirement the main thing has been time to be more actively masonically. I also ended up as District Organist



for the Royal & Select Masters and Allied degrees on top of the Mark and Mariners. Part of what I was doing was looking at enhancements for the keyboard that I play to give greater variety of sound and also to look at increasing the number of available pieces of music suitable for Masonic ceremonies.

Hobbies are reading, walking, cycling, going to the cinema and a bit of photography. Obviously my promotion to APM was a huge, but unexpected honour, you tend to have the organists job for life! My Masonic aim is to support the Mark Province of Northumberland as best I can and to enjoy myself"

NEW INCENTIVES INTRODUCED BY THE PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER

After asking every Lodge Secretary and Scribe to report the deaths of their members, since last April we have also been asking the next of kin to nominate a charity to which a donation of £25 will be sent from the NMBF. The PGM at the AGM on 26/09/15 said "I have to inform you brethren, that this approach has been extremely well received".

As you may be aware for the first time Provincial Appointment Certificates have been presented to this years recipients of appointments and promotions in Prov. Grand Lodge. Someone who received a promotion this year asked for a certificate for his first appointment. I (PGM) agreed to do this as long as they made a donation to the NMBF which they agreed to do. If any brother wishes to apply for a certificate, they can do so if they were appointed or promoted in 2009 or later and they make a donation of £10.00 (which will be credited to them). Please contact the Prov. Grand Secretary for further details.

Another incentive was announced earlier in the year at the RAM Annual Assembly. To enable lodges who are suffering with membership numbers the PGM announced that if a brother from this Province wishes to join a lodge who has a membership of 18 or less, Provincial Grand Lodge will pay the Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodge fees for two years. The lodges who qualify for the scheme are **MARK**— Morpeth, Unity, Carville, Newgate, Grainger, Nepos, Farne and Ponteland and the

MARINERS - Morpeth, Carville, Hexham, De La Val and Farne. If you require any further information, please contact the Lodge Secretary or Scribe or you can contact the Provincial Grand Secretary on 01670 822227 or provincialgrandsecretary@gmail.com.

Blagdon RAM Lodge celebrates 100 not out in 2019.

As part of the celebrations Blagdon Mark Lodge No. 547 will be holding a social evening to help raise funds for their RAM brethren. At the last F&G meeting of Blagdon RAM Lodge, WBro. Bill George (Worshipful Commander) said, before he passed away in July, he wanted to initiate plans for funds to be raised for the centenary celebrations in 2019.

WBro. Mike Billingham Worshipful Master of Blagdon Mark Lodge is organising the social evening, he is an old hand (did I say old, *editor*) having successfully organised fund raising events for Blagdon Craft Lodge for a number of years. The social evening will be held at the Blyth Masonic Building on Saturday 13th February 2016, there will be a wholesome meal and good entertainment. It will be a typical Mark & RAM collaboration, supporting each others projects.

It will be a ticket event. Tickets will be going on sale in due course, keep your eyes and ears open, with further details to follow.



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.

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PGM ADDRESS AT THE MARK PROVINCIAL ANNUAL MEETING

“Good afternoon brethren... Last October I had the pleasure of investing WBro. Stuart Cairns as Asst. PGM at a ceremony in the Alnwick building. His appointment to this position however was short-lived as earlier this month I was delighted to promote him to the rank of Deputy PGM and then consequently investing WBro. Richard Northey to the office of Asst. PGM. A capacity festive board followed a packed meeting which, I have no doubt, was thoroughly enjoyed by all attending. I have already given both of them tasks on top of their normal duties.

WBro. Stuart will continue to promote membership of the Order by delivering talks at Open Nights. Can I ask you brethren that when one of these Open Nights is held in your locality that you attend and if possible take a potential candidates along. In addition to this recruitment drive I have received permission from our Craft Provincial Grand Master for talks about the Mark Degree to be delivered at Craft meetings. If you would like a to talk to be given at one of your Craft meetings please let the Mark office know and it will be organised.

WBro. Richard is putting together a team to deliver the lecture on the Mark and Mariner tracing boards, and I am certain that he will willingly accept any volunteers. For my own part, I will be organising a weekend away next year for members and their wives or partners, unless that is someone comes forward and offers to do the job for me!

At the investiture meeting earlier this month I thanked VWBro. Fred for his services to the Province. In this gathering I would like once again acknowledge the dedication VWBro. Fred has given over the past eight years initially as Asst. PGM and since 2009 as Deputy PGM. His calm and easy going style has been an example to all and as I have said previously he will be a hard act to follow. He has travelled many miles not just attending meetings throughout the country but even within this Province given the remoteness of where he lives.

You cannot have failed to have noticed the fact that a number of senior Provincial brethren have retired this year to all of whom both the Province and I owe a great debt of gratitude. The first person I would like to mention is WBro. David Moses, who four years ago had no hesitation in stepping in after the sudden

resignation of his predecessor. WBro. David has put a tremendous amount of time and effort into the running of the provincial office for which I will always be grateful. In addition he has made many friends amongst the secretaries of other provinces which I am sure will continue for a long time.

VWBro. David Auld has been Provincial Almoner since 1998 and I am sure that you will agree with me that he deserves a well-earned rest. Having said that, he is not taking a complete break but is taking up a supporting role as Asst. Almoner. Over the years David has helped numerous brethren and their families for which they will be eternally grateful. Lastly, WBro. Bill Walton joined the DC's team in 2012 and I promoted him to Deputy DC last year. Regrettably his work commitments now prevent him from fulfilling the role he so obviously enjoyed.

I would like to mention those brethren who were appointed 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. On that occasion WBro. Michael Warburton was appointed Past Grand Standard Bearer, WBro. Stephen Young and Bill Hurrell were appointed Past Asst. Grand Director of Ceremonies. WBro. Greg Smith was promoted to Past Grand Senior Deacon and VWBro. Ian Daniel to Past Grand Junior Overseer. Last but not least WBro. Stuart Cairns was promoted to Grand Junior Deacon.

Earlier in the year the third golf match between the Craft and the Mark was held at Blyth Golf Course. I thought it was going to be third time lucky but unfortunately it was not to be! However I understand that the result this year was closer than in previous years. Can I thank WBro. Stuart Cairns and Eric Lonstaff for organising the event and all of the players for taking part. Better luck next time but no pressure!

For those whom I have just appointed and promoted in Provincial Grand Lodge, 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 and for the good of their lodge as well as the province.

I have asked that 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. This year the Provincial team gave great support to the various lodges they visited which was appreciated both by myself and the lodges. I would like to publicly thank them for their backing and hope that they will remember the past year for a long time.

At our Mariners Annual Provincial Assembly in April I announced my decision to introduce a scheme to encourage brethren to join additional lodges. Under the scheme if a brother from within this province joins another Mark or Mariner lodge also within this province, Provincial Grand Lodge will pay the joining fees and two years Grand and Provincial Grand Lodge dues. The caveats to this are that the lodge they join must have 18 or fewer members, they must remain a member of their mother lodge and the lodge they join, for a minimum of 4 years and they will be expected, if possible, to take office. I must stress that this is purely optional. If a brother wishes to visit another lodge without joining he will of course be perfectly free to do so and he will be very welcome.

During the course of the year the benevolent committee again organised 4 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 NMBF Accounts. One particular event I would like to mention was the BBQ at the Blue Flames Club where a cheque for the sum of £1250 was presented to representatives of the Multiple System Atrophy Trust. Much useful publicity was gained as the press release relating to the event was published in the Newcastle Journal and the Evening Chronicle. I wish WBro. Tom Grey, the Chairman of the NMBF fund raising committee along with the other members every success in the future”.

“May the Great Overseer of the Universe have you in his keeping now and for evermore”

Northumberland Mark & RAM Calendar 2015.

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	24	23	27					28	26	23*	
Hotspur with Coquetdale	135	Alnwick	3rd Wed	17		20*						19		21
St. Cuthbert	192	Berwick	3rd Wed	21	23		19*				21		16	
Tristram	346	Fern Avenue	2nd Tue	9	8							18*	8	13
Gosforth	463	Wallsend	4th Mon	25		28					22*	27	24	
Hartford	546	Bedlington	2nd Tue	12	8		10*				13		8	
Blagdon	547	Blyth	1st Wed	3	2	6*						7		7
Morpeth	691	Morpeth	3rd Thu	21		21						21		15*
Thomas Purvis	702	Maple Terrace	4th Mon	25	28		23				26*			
Unity	708	Byker	2nd Thu		10	14*						13	10	
Haven	750	North Shields	2nd Mon	8		11*						10		12
Amble	780	Amble	4th Wed			23*	25				28		23	
Whitley	788	Whitley Bay	4th Wed			23	27				28		23*	
Ashington	890	Ashington	1st Thu	4*		7		2				6		1
Carville	968	Byker	1st Fri	5		5*						7		2
Risingham	1033	Bellingham	2nd Tue		8			14			13	11*		
Newgate	1141	Byker	1st Mon	1		4*						3		5
Grainger	1147	Wallsend	4th Fri	22	26	23	22				23*			
Nepos	1155	Byker	3rd Tue			15*	17				20		15	
Hexham	1161	Hexham	2nd Wed	10		13		8*				12		14
Backworth	1189	Shiremoor	2nd Tue		8	12					13	11	8*	
Cramlington	1235	Cramlington	3rd Mon		21	18	16				19*			
De Umfraville	1270	Mickiey	2nd Mon		14	9						10*		12
Haltwhistle	1278	Haltwhistle	3rd Thu		17	21	19					20*		
De La Val	1290	Seaton Delavai	2nd Thu	14	10	12					8*		10	
Adoniram	1483	Blyth	2nd Fri		11			10					11*	
George Stephenson	1527	Wylam	1st Thu		3	5*					1		3	
Farne	1540	Alnwick	4th Fri			22		24*				28		
Ponteland	1550	Memorial Hall, Ponteland	Last Thu	28		28						27*		
Newbiggin	1756	Newbiggin	1st Mon			7*					5	3	7	
Oriental	1890	Fern Avenue	1st Mon		7			6				3*		

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	27			25	22*					16*	*(3rd Wed)
Hotspur	135	Alnwick	4th Thu		26		26			28			24*	
St. Cuthbert	192	Berwick	1st Wed				4					5*		
Tristram	346	Fern Avenue	2nd Tue	12		12				13*				
Hartford	546	Bedlington	3rd Wed		17*	20		15				19		21
Blagdon	547	Blyth	4th Thu	28	24		26*					24		
Morpeth	691	Morpeth	2nd Wed	13	9*					14		9		
Whitley	788	Whitley Bay	1st Tue		1		3*				4			
Ashington	890	Ashington	1st Thu		3		5*			1		3		
Carville	968	Byker	1st Fri	1	4*							4		
Newgate	1141	Byker	1st Mon		7*					5		7		
Hexham	1161	Hexham	3rd Fri		18		20					21*		
Backworth	1189	Shiremoor	2nd Tue		9		10*							13
De La Val	1290	Seaton Delaval	5th Thu	29		29			26*					
Triangle	1483	Bedlington	2nd Fri		12					9*				
Triangle	1483	RAMAGM	1st Tues			5								
Farne	1540	Alnwick	3rd Fri		18*				19			18		

Provincial Officers 2015-16

RWBro G Craigs.....PGM
 WBro. S Cairns.....DPGM
 WBro. R Northey.....APGM

WBro. M Gair.....Senior Warden
 WBro. A F Sheret.....Junior Warden
 WBro. K Grey.....Master Overseer
 WBro. D R Nef.....Senior Overseer
 WBro. D B Sanderson.....Junior Overseer
 WBro. S Young.....Chaplain
 WBro. N H Reeve.....Treasurer
 WBro. G Rowley.....Registrar
 WBro. C Allan.....Secretary
 WBro. L F Francis.....Dir. Ceremony
 WBro. W Taylor.....Inspector of Works
 WBro. D C McIssac.....Sword Bearer
 WBro. J Hannon.....Dep. Chaplain
 WBro. C W Robson.....Dep. Secretary
 WBro. R A Walton.....Dep. Dir. of Ceremonies
 WBro. J E Hindhaugh.....Senior Deacon
 WBro. J D Lonsdale.....Senior Deacon
 WBro. A S Fraser.....Junior Deacon
 WBro. R G Learmouth.....Junior Deacon
 WBro. C Narey.....Charity Steward
 WBro. J S Moor.....Asst. Chaplain
 WBro. J H Bryan.....Asst. Secretary
 WBro. J Spearman.....Asst. Dir. of Ceremonies
 WBro. W Tindle.....Asst. Dir. of Ceremonies
 WBro. S Matthews.....Almoner
 VWBro. M D E Auld.....Asst. Almoner
 WBro. R G Angus.....Organist
 WBro. D A Reynolds.....Standard Bearer
 WBro. D W Campbell.....Inner Guard
 Bro. H G Hepple.....Steward
 Bro. E C Barber.....Steward
 WBro. P Ward.....Tyler

PAST RANK FIRST APPOINTMENTS

WBro. P Moat.....Junior Deacon
 WBro. K Miller.....Junior Deacon
 WBro. W D G M Just.....Junior Deacon

PROMOTIONS

WBro. C Jenkinson.....Junior Warden
 WBro. D A Hewison.....Junior Warden
 WBro. N Wicks.....Junior Warden
 WBro. F C Boak.....Junior Warden
 Bro. B A Simpson.....Junior Deacon

Provincial Visits 2015—2016

Mark

Hartford 546 Tues. 10th Nov 2015
 Hotspur with COQ 135 Wed. 16th Dec 2015
 Morpeth 691 Thurs. 18th Feb 2016
 Geo. Stephenson 1527 Thurs. 3rd Mar 2016
 St. Cuthbert 192 Wed. 16th Mar 2016

Hexham 1161 Wed. 13th Apr 2016

Thomas Purvis 702 Mon 23rd May 2016

Royal Ark Mariners

Farne 1540 Fri. 20th Nov 2015

Tristram 346 Tue. 12th Jan 2016

Blagdon 547 Wed. 23rd Mar 2016

Hotspur 135 Thurs. 26th May 2016

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.

Life Subscribers

A M White	T.I
P K Rudkin	T.I
J C Dodds	135
J J Meikle	463
L Churchill	547
S Matthews	691
T Whinham	780
G G McGill	1141
B Hegarty	1235
R Cuthbertson	1290

Vice Patrons

M Warburton	346
A Finlay	463
G J Galloway	547
F C Boak	788
A Robson	890/1540
K Gray	1141
L Francis	1155
D Jowett	1161
D W Campbell	1550

Patrons

K Allred	702
T E Wilkinson	1033
F Dye	1290
S Phelps	1527
C Allan	1756

Grand Patrons

JT Spearman	T.I
S Cairns	135
M Tahir	546
J Moralee	691
G R Atkinson	1141
T Grey	1147
J Pearson	1235
C Robson	1290
D Dunn	1890
J Atkinson	702

Grand Patron Gold

D Moses	547
C Narey	1155
T Narey	1155

NMBF—Recycled Regalia Initiative (RRI)

This continues to progress extremely well. WBro. Colin Narey set himself a target of £6000.00, £500.00 per month, for the current years to 05/04/16, and for the first 6 months of this year he is well above his monthly targets.

The PGM and WBro. Colin Narey would again like to place on record their thanks to all of those brethren who have donated regalia to the initiative over the past 30 months and also a very sincere thanks to all who have purchased items. Colin continues to hold a significant “stock” of items, for which he is most appreciative. However, holding the items in stock does not generate funds for the NMBF, we do need to sell it on. If you are in need of any items of regalia, for any orders you are joining, progressing in, or being promoted in, please contact Colin in the first instance. If he can help, he will. If he can't, then you have not lost anything.

Colin can be contacted on 0191 2403738, 07526 498951 or at colin.narey@blueyonder.co.uk.

The winners of the Centenary Club draw.

1st Prize. £150 D Hewison No. 547.

2nd Prize. £100 G Todd No. 1147.

Joint 3rd Prize. £75 M Tahir No. 546

& R MacFarlane No. 1033

Congratulations to all.

Mark Open Evenings.

The Mark Open Evenings have been a success and continue to be delivered. The next two open evenings will be held at Wylam MH on Thursday 5th November and Corbridge Road on Monday 23rd Nov 2015. Please support WBro. Stuart Cairns and his team by bringing a non-Mark Mason along.

Prov. Secretary e-mail address.

Please use the following e-mail address to contact the Prov. Grand Secretary. provincialgrandsecretary@gmail.com and not maggie1946@hotmail.com.

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