



NORTHUMBERLAND MARK

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PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

WBRO. GLEN GALLOWAY
EDITOR.

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COPY.

SPRING 2016

THE EDITOR SAYS 'GOODBYE AND THANK YOU'



After seven years at the helm of the Provincial Newsletter, it is time for me to hand over the reins to a more enthusiastic leader. Firstly, I would like to thank the Secretariat especially WBro. Clive Robson, who, over the years, has been hounded day and night for material for the newsletter. If it was not for his patience the newsletter would not have been a success. I would also like to thank my 'copy' WBro. Stephen Young for keeping the whole thing together, without his tolerance and his endurance I would not have had the enthusiasm to produce the newsletter. And last but not least, WBro. Colin Narey for the amount of information and dedication to the NMBF, as to keep the brethren up to date on the current situation with the Fund.

For your newsletter to be successful, it needs you. The need to keep the brethren of the province up to date with 'what's going on' is essential. So please still contribute any little piece of news you think the brethren will be interested in.

Take care, WBro. Glen J.Galloway, Editor.



Annual Grand Mark Investiture Meeting

Great Queen Street, 7th June 2016 at 1:00pm



The Annual Investiture Meeting is always a terrific occasion and a special day both for those Mark Brethren who receive their Grand Mark Honours and hundreds of Mark Masons who attend and give support to their friends & colleagues.

The Meeting this year will be a special event and is starting earlier than usual as a new Deputy Grand Master and a new Assistant Grand Master are being invested. It really is one not to miss and the PGM, RWBro. Gordon is encouraging all Mark Masons in Northumberland to try to attend what will be a memorable event. Of course, if it is not possible, that encouragement is extended to attend on a future occasion.

As I write this article, more than 30 Mark Brethren in Northumberland have already booked their places. Most are catching the 8:59am train from Newcastle and returning either on the 6pm or 8pm train from London KX. For those who do not wish to dine at the Grand Connaught Rooms (Booking forms for dining at the GCR's will be available via the GLMMM website) there are a number of very good alternative places to eat in the surrounding area.

Congratulations are extended to the following Northumberland Brethren who will deservedly receive Grand Lodge Honours at the Meeting in June.

Les Francis—GJD, **Chris Allan**—GStwd, **Richard Northey** - PGJD, **Colin Narey**—PGJD, **Alex Thompson**—PAGDC, **Stephen Matthews**—PAGDC, **Robert Angus**—PAGDC, **Graham Howie**—PAGSwdB. Should you wish to attend contact the Prov. Grand Secretary on 01670 822227 or provincialgrandsecretary@gmail.com.

The Pledger Cup

Craft & Chapter Vs Mark Mariners. Morpeth Golf Club Wednesday 18th May 2016, Tee reserved 13:30. This is an annual Golf match played between the Craft and the Mark degrees. The captain of the Mark and Mariner team is Stuart Cairns and for the Craft and the Chapter team is Russell Dawson. The Craft and Chapter team won last years tournament under the captaincy of Michael Anderson.



RWBro. Craigs PGM presenting the cup at last years tournament.

If you are available to play please contact Russell (dawsonr@talktalk.net) Stuart (07712161310 or staidans@btinternet.com) or Eric Longstaff (Hon. Secretary, Northumberland Masonic Golfing Society) on 01670 366339, 07867 835060 or elongstaff@sky.com. Why not go along and support the Mark and Mariner Team.

Contact Details



You can contact the Prov. Grand Secretary at:

provincialgrandsecretary@gmail.com, 01670 822227 or at the above address.

Your Newsletter needs YOU !!

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

What we need are 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.

Inside this issue:

'Last farewell'. The Pledger Cup 2016.	1
Annual Grand Mark Investiture Meeting, June.	1
PGM's Address to the RAM Prov. Annual Meeting.	2
2016 Mark & RAM Raffle. GLMMM Grand Rank.	3
NMBF—Recycled Regalia Initiative (RRI).	3
MBF Honours. GR & Prov. RAM.	4
N&BTI June Meeting. Social Events.	4

PGM ADDRESS AT THE RAM PROVINCIAL ANNUAL MEETING



Good evening brethren and a warm welcome to this annual assembly and to Triangle Lodge. I am delighted that so many of you have been able to attend and sincerely hope you have an enjoyable evening. I would welcome our Past Provincial Grand Master and Past Deputy Provincial Grand Master but since they are already members of the Triangle you can hardly welcome them to their own Lodge!

If you have any comments to make concerning the arrangements or the venue please let the secretariat know. Any feedback you give will be discussed at the Executive meeting as it is often good to take suggestions from people who are not part of the organising team.

I am sure you will join me in congratulating the two brethren who deservedly received the Royal Ark Mariner Grand Lodge honours in December, namely W. Bros Richard Northey and Ralph Crow. As you may be aware we are only allowed to nominate two brethren per year for Mariner Grand Lodge Honours which makes it a very difficult choice when we have so many hard working members. These two brethren richly deserve the honour. Richard and Ralph will have ample opportunity to represent me at a number of installations and will continue to be a valuable asset to the Province. I know you will offer both your support and I would now ask you to acclaim these brethren.

To the officers of Provincial Grand Lodge who were appointed last year, I hope that you have enjoyed the year. Your support is greatly appreciated by both me and, I am confident, by the lodges you have visited.

To the brethren I have just appointed, make the most of this year and of course attend as many of the Provincial visits as you can. There are only four of them and your support is, as I have already said, greatly appreciated by the lodges you visit. The honour is not given but earned with the expectation that you will continue to work for the benefit of your lodge as well as the Province.

As you should be aware by now there will soon be changes to the rulers of our Order at the Investiture meeting in June. RWBro. Ray Smith is to become Deputy Grand Master and RWBro.

John Prizeman is to become Assistant Grand Master. Neither of these brethren are strangers to this Province, R. W. Bro Smith having attended our Annual Provincial Meeting in 2014 and R. W. Bro Prizeman in 2015. R.W. Bro Smith has decided to travel north again and attend the TI meeting in Bellingham, on Wednesday 1st June, and I hope as many brethren as possible will attend to show support not only for R.W. Bro Smith but also for TI lodge. For those brethren who have not visited Grand Lodge before I am sure if you speak to the brethren who have previously witnessed the ceremony and splendid surroundings they will explain what a wonderful day it is. Additionally I am certain that the brethren receiving an appointment or promotion on the day would appreciate your support.

The Recycled Regalia Initiative continues to go from strength to strength. Due to your generosity brethren in donating regalia and, I have to say, WBro. Colin Narey's sales technique over £7,500 has been raised for the Northumberland Mark Benevolent Fund over the past year.

A couple of years ago I introduced the travelling sceptre and gavel in an attempt to increase inter mariner lodge visiting and last year I tweaked the rules to try and move the sceptre and gavel around more frequently. The results of one those tweaks are illustrated here tonight and it now gives me great pleasure to now present the sceptre to W. Bro Trevor Narey.

The Membership scheme which I announced last year is gathering pace, however once again it seems to be more popular in the Mark than the Mariners. I would urge you brethren to support those mariner lodges who are struggling through lack of members. When the new yearbook is published the eligible lodges will change as some may have gone over the threshold of eighteen members. Some may also have dipped under, so brethren if you are intending to join a lodge just below the threshold in last year's book I would urge you to do so as soon as possible.

The Centenary Fund continues to flourish and I am confident, given your continued

support, that we will reach our target by this time next year. However we must not rest on our laurels as I am sure that we should continue with the draw in order to raise funds for other worthwhile causes.

At the last annual provincial meeting I announced that I would organize a weekend away for members with their wives or partners. If sufficient numbers come forward I intend holding the event from Friday 3rd June to Sunday 5th June at Marshall Meadows hotel just north of Berwick. It is a family run converted Georgian house set in its own grounds. Guests will arrive on the Friday afternoon and we will dine privately in the evening. On the Saturday morning following breakfast we will visit tourist attractions in the area and return back to the hotel in the afternoon. Again we will dine privately in the evening and after breakfast on the Sunday make our way home. The cost of the weekend will be £280 per couple plus drinks at the hotel, minibus hire, lunch on Saturday and entry to the attractions. To the best of my knowledge it is the first time this Province has run such an event which appears to be extremely successful elsewhere and I hope this will become an annual event for this Province. If you wish to attend please let me know as soon as possible as numbers are restricted. A deposit of £100 is required with the booking.

Events such as this evening do not 'just' arrange themselves; they require considerable organisation and this is on top of the normal day to day running of the Provincial Office. I will always be appreciative of the amount of their own time, without any reimbursement, the secretariat give up. In addition I would like to thank W. Bro Les Francis and his team for their on-going assistance in escorting me, my Deputy and my Assistant.

Finally I would like to thank the members of Triangle Lodge, in particular the Worshipful Commander, for allowing us to hijack their meeting and the management of Blyth Masonic Buildings for their assistance and cooperation.

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

2016 Mark & RAM (Real Aged Malts) Raffle 25th May 2016.

The above Raffle is to raise funds for the NMBF 2031 Festival. The raffle tickets are on sale now at £1 per ticket or £5 per book. The first prize will be a boxed miniature set of Mark working tools, including the box which was hand made by WBro. George Green of Amble Lodge No. 780. 2nd, 3rd and 4th prizes are bottles of malt whiskey and there are other prizes as well.

The draw is to take place at the Amble Lodge meeting on Wednesday 25th May 2016. So, good luck to you all.

Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons Appointments and Promotions.

Les Francis	GJD
Chris Allan	GStwd
Richard Northey	PGJD
Colin Narey	PGJD
Alex Thompson	PAGDC
Stephen Matthews	PAGDC
Robert Angus	PAGDC
Graham Howie	PAGSwdB

Forthcoming fundraising events for 2016.

2nd Jul - NMBF Summer BBQ, Blue Flames Club, Whitley Rd, Benton. All proceeds to be donated to TLC—Teddis for Loving Care. This is an extremely deserving cause and your support would as always be much appreciated.

9th Oct - Italian Night, Amici's Restaurant, 93-95 Station Rd, Forest Hall. 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
Henry Cowie	07977 266798

Watch out for more details appearing on your Notice Boards. Events for 2017 will be agreed at the next committee meeting to be held in August 2016 and they will be included in the next issue of this Newsletter. The above are all very popular events so book your places early with any of the above contacts.

NMBF—RECYCLED REGALIA INITIATIVE (RRI)

Well, that's another year over and another very successful year for the RRI. Having set a target of £500 per month for the year to 05/04/2016 WBro. Colin Narey had exceeded the £6000 total by the end of November 2015. He therefore targeted another £500 per month for the remaining 4 months and this too he also met with approximately 3 weeks to go before going on holiday on 17/03/2016.

Since the initiative started a little over 3 years ago it has generated total funds in that time of approximately £17,100 which with the benefit of Gift Aid tax relief equates to approximately £21,375. It has got off to a really good start for the current year and Colin is confident of achieving the new target he has set himself, of £650 per month for the current year.

The PGM and WBro. Colin would again like to place on record their thanks to all of those brethren who have donated regalia to the initiative over the past 36 months and also a very sincere thanks to all those 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



NMBF Social Italian Night on Sunday 9th October 2016. 7.00pm for 7.30pm till Late. Amici's Restaurant. 93-95 Station Road, Forest Hall, NE12 8AE. 3 Course meal, choice of Starter and Main course from their Early Bird Menu and Coffee or Ice Cream all for £8.50. Starters and Main Courses to be pre ordered, please ask for a menu to be sent out to you. Places will be allocated strictly on first come first served basis. All donations of raffle prizes accepted and most appreciated.

The Travelling Gavel & Sceptre.

The Gavel is now located with the George Stephenson Lodge Wylam, having been recovered from Haltwhistle Lodge during a daring ambush led by W Bro Angus and his crack commandos .

If the gavel/sceptre is not claimed at a meeting then the holding lodge has to pass it on to the next lodge they visit. This will ensure that it is passed on more frequently.

At the Annual Prov. Mk & RAM meeting the lodge holding the gavel/sceptre will present it to the PGM. The PGM will present it to the WM/WC of the lodge with the most brethren dining. Hopefully this will raise its profile and remind the brethren that it exists!

Royal Arch Mariner Grand Lodge Appointments.

WBro. Richard Northey	1540
WBro. Ralph Crow	135



NMBF Summer BBQ Social. All Proceeds to be donated to TLC - Teddies for Loving Care. Saturday 2nd July 2016, 7.00—11-00pm at the Blue Flames Club, Whitley Road, Benton, NE12 9SF. Individual BBQ Packs (cook yourself to your liking) buns, salads, potatoes and condiments all provided for £8.50. Raffle, Lotto and Whiskey Draws, Irish Bingo and Fun Quiz. Come along and have a good time in good company.

Blagdon Lodge of RAM No. 547 Centenary Celebrations for 2019



As part of the centenary celebrations leading up to its 100th Birthday in 2019, the Lodge will be holding a Social Evening at the Blyth Masonic Hall, Beaconsfield Street, Blyth, to be held on Saturday September 2016 at 7pm. The evening includes entertainment of outstanding quality, a buffet, a raffle and a light hearted look at the life and times of an Insurance man all for £7.50 . Tickets are limited. Contact Mike Billingham 01670360657 or 07808648519.

Royal Ark Mariner Prov. Appointments

P C Watters	N&B TI
J A Thompson	135
G Singh Sarang	346
J M Prail	546
M Tahir	546
G Tuck	788
B R Thompson	1161
A Hall	1189
N A Topping	1290
I Potter	1540

Northumberland & Berwick upon Tweed Lodge of Mark Masters TI

Following our very successful meeting at Berwick in 2013 and Hexham in 2014 we are to hold a Lodge meeting at Risingham Mark Lodge No. 1033, under our Travelling Warrant on Wednesday 1st June 2016 in the Masonic Hall, Manchester Square, Bellingham, commencing at 7.00pm. The Worshipful Master and his Officers will enact an Advancement Degree followed by a Festive Board. With a 3 course meal for which there will be a charge.

All money raised in the Alms and Raffle will be donated to the NMBF. The WM cordially invites all Mark Masons to accompany him on this unique occasion. If you wish to reserve a seat and/or dinner please contact the Secretary. The meal must be reserved in advance of the meeting. **Contact: WBro. Paddy Watters, 5, Elizabeth Crescent, Dudley NE23 7AY. Tel: 0191 2502265 / 07921729422 or e-mail patwatt1957@sky.com**

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 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. The presentations to the following members were made, in the main, at their own individual Lodges by either WBro. Colin Narey, or the PGM, Dep. PGM or Asst. PGM.

Life Subscribers

T Boswell	780
E Thompson	691
E Nesbitt	1155
M Scott	346
J R Ormston	788
S Buchanan	1155
D G Lynn	1290
A Bell	1527
C Emmerson	1527
C Willis	1527

Vice Patrons

K G Wallace	1141
T Dexter	1189
P Thornton	1527
R J K McEwan	1527
C D Lonie	1527

Patrons

B Atkinson	547
P C Watters	TI
G Tuck	788
R Tulip	1189
P A Cooke	1189