



**Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark  
Master Masons of Northumberland**

**RWBro GORDON CRAIGS**

Provincial Grand Master

**WBro STUART CAIRNS, GJO**

Deputy Provincial Grand Master

**WBro RICHARD NORTHEY, PAGDC**

Assistant Provincial Grand Master

**ANNUAL MEETING  
REPORT**

for

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 24th. 2016**

AT

**NEWCASTLE EAST MASONIC CENTRE**

**CORBRIDGE ROAD NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE**

UNDER THE BANNERS OF

**GRAINGER LODGE 1147**

**PONTELAND LODGE 1550**

**ORIENTAL LODGE 1890**

Provincial Grand Secretary

**C. ALLAN** Grand Steward

Masonic Hall

Hartford Road West

Bedlington

Northumberland

NE22 6HU

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# **Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Northumberland**

**Provincial Executive**

**Provincial Grand Master**

***RWBro Gordon Craigs***

**Deputy Provincial Grand Master**

***WBro Stuart Cairns***

**Assistant Deputy Provincial Grand Master**

***WBro Richard Northey***

***Provincial Grand Secretary***

***WBro Christopher Allan***

## PROVINCIAL OFFICERS FOR 2015-2016

### (Active Ranks)

			Lodge No.
Senior Warden	WBro Michael Gair	Ashington	890
Junior Warden	WBro Alan Frederick Sheret	Backworth	1189
Master Overseer	WBro Kevin Gray	Newgate	1141
Senior Overseer	WBro Daniel Ralph Nef	Haven	750
Junior Overseer	WBro David Bernard Sanderson	George Stephenson	1527
Chaplain	WBro Stephen Young	Re-appointment	
Treasurer	WBro Norman Harry Reeve	Re-election	
Registrar	WBro Graham Rowley	Grainger	1147
Secretary	WBro Christopher Allan	Morpeth	691
Director of Ceremonies	WBro Leslie Frederick Francis	Re-appointment	
Inspector of Works	WBro William Taylor	Northld & Berwick	T.I.
Sword Bearer	Duncan Cruickshank McIsaac	Newgate	1141
Deputy Chaplain	WBro Joseph Hannan	Re-appointment	
Deputy Secretary	WBro Clive Walton Robson	De La Val	1290
Deputy DC	WBro Raymond Arthur Walton	Ponteland	1550
Senior Deacon	WBro John Edwin Hindhaugh	Blagdon	547
Senior Deacon	WBro John David Lonsdale	Morpeth	691
Junior Deacon	WBro Austen Stroud Fraser	Hartford	546
Junior Deacon	WBro Rodney Griffith Learmonth	Ashington	890
Charity Steward	WBro Colin Neary	Re-appointment	
Assistant Chaplain	WBro John Sidney Moor	George Stephenson	1527
Assistant Secretary	WBro John Henry Bryan	Cramlington	1235
Assistant DC	WBro John Thomas Spearman	Re-appointment	
Assistant DC	WBro William Tindle	Re-appointment	
Almoner	WBro Stephen Matthews	Morpeth	691
Assistant Almoner	WBro Matthew David Edward Auld	Morpeth	691
Organist	WBro George Angus	Amble	780
Standard Bearer	WBro Douglas Arthur Reynolds	Whitley	788
Inner Guard	WBro David William Campbell	Ponteland	1550
Steward	Bro Herbert Goward Hepple	Cramlington	1235
Steward	Bro Eric Charles Barber	Risingham	1033
Tyler	WBro Peter Ward	Unity	708

## DISTINGUISHED GUESTS 2016

RWBro	D. R. Sellars	PGM	Cheshire
WBro	A. W. Bamber	DPGM	Cheshire
WBro	C. Hambleton	PGSec	Cheshire
WBro	B. W. Mayoh	DPGSec.	Cheshire
RWBro	K. Hodgeson	PGM	Cumb & West
VWBro	B. Kirkbride	DPGM	Cumb & West
WBro	D. G. Sanderson	PGDC	Cumb & West
WBro	E. Holmes	PGJD	Cumb & West
RWBro	C. Cantrell	PGM	Derbyshire
WBro	P. C. Ablott	DPGM	Derbyshire
WBro	R. Hitchen	PGSec	Derbyshire
RWBro	M. Whelan	PGM	Dorset
WBro	R. Paisley	PGCStd	Dorset
RWBro	Porf D. K. Wilson	PGM	Durham
VWBro	F. A. Rankin	DPGM	Durham
VWBro	S. A. R. Ingram	APGM	Durham
VWBro	D. Guy	PGSec	Durham
RWBro	P. A. Norman	PGM	East Anglia
WBro	R. G. Orme	PAGDC	East Anglia
RWBro	A. S. McLaren	PGM	East Lancs
WBro	J. H. Smith	DPGM	East Lancs
WBro	T. J. Davies	APGM	East Lancs
WBro	G. MacLean	PGJO	Essex
WBro	T. Clarke	PGSec	Hertfordshire
WBro	R. Moth	PGDC	Hertfordshire
RWBro	S. Davison	PGM	Leicester & Rutland
WBro	D. A. Peacock	PGSec	Leicester & Rutland
RWBro	Rev. T. Walker	PGM	Lincolnshire
WBro	M. J. Forrest	PGOrg	Lincolnshire

## DISTINGUISHED GUESTS 2016 (contd.)

VWBro	A. C. Scott	DPGM	North & E. Yorkshire
WBro	P. D. Barham	APGM	North & E. Yorkshire
RWBro	P. Talbot	PGM	North Wales
WBro	D. A. Wright	DPGM	North Wales
WBro	D. Sowerby	DPGSec	Northants & Hunts
WBro	K. J. Spencer	PGSW	Staffs & Shropshire
WBro	T. Carpenter	DPGSec	Surrey
WBro	G. H. Lee	DPGM	West Lancashire
WBro	M. J. Clarke	APGM	West Lancashire
WBro	I. D. Nairn	APGM	West Lancashire
RWBro	J. Steggles	PGM	West Yorkshire
WBro	R. B. Putrell	DPGM	West Yorkshire
WBro	Dr. R. T. Taylor	APGM	West Yorkshire
WBro	A. Oldfield	PGSec	West Yorkshire
RWBro	E. J. Rymer	PGM	Worcestershire

## OPENING

Provincial Grand Lodge was opened by the RW Grand Master Gordon Craigs in Due form at 12:00 noon.

Provincial Grand Master	RW Bro Gordon Craigs	Seven
Deputy Provincial Grand Master	VW Bro Stuart Cairns	Five
Ass.Provincial Grand Master	W Bro Richard Northey	Five
Past Deputy Provincial Grand Master	VW Bro Frederick Craigie Main VWBro Michael Louis	Five

## SALUTATIONS

Salutations were duly observed and acknowledged:-

*All acknowledged by R W Grand Master*

Right Worshipful Brethren

*Acknowledged by RW Bro. Rev Trevor T. Walker PGM Linc. Seven*

Very Worshipful Brethren

*Acknowledged by VW Bro Frank A. Rankin DPGM Durham Five*

Grand Lodge Officers

*Acknowledged by WBro Christopher Allan PGSec Three*

*Acknowledged with three*

A delegation of Mark Mariners was received and admitted into the meeting.

## OBITUARIES

The Right Worshipful Grand Master asked the Brethren to stand while the Provincial Grand Secretary read the names of those Brethren in the Province who had sadly passed away during the previous year.

### DEATHS REPORTED TO DATE ( 01/09/2015 - 31/08/2016 )

Robert Arthur Offen	North & Berwick	TI
George Macfadden	North & Berwick	TI
John Stevens	Hotspur with Coquet	135
Peter Breathnet Thompson	St. Cuthbert's	192
Thomas Alexander Houston	St. Cuthbert's	192
Frank Swann	Thomas Purvis	702
Thomas Henry Little	Thomas Purvis	702
John Charles Henry Goldfinch	Whitley	788
Clifford Renton	Risingham	1033
George Robert Atkinson	Newgate	1141
William Todd Mcguiness	Backworth	1189
David George Telford	De La Val	1290
Norman Hurst	George Stephenson	1527

## MINUTES

The Minutes of the previous Annual Meeting held on Saturday 26th. September 2015 which were available for perusal for thirty minutes before the meeting were taken as read and confirmed.



## **ADDRESS OF WELCOME**

by

The address of welcome was delivered by WBro Graham Rowley of Grainger Lodge No 1147 , on behalf of the three organising Lodges, Grainger Lodge No. 1147, Ponteland Lodge No. 1550 and Oriental Lodge No. 1890.

## **ROLL OF PROVINCIAL OFFICERS**

The Secretary reported that all but four of the Active Officers in the Province were in Attendance. Apologies had been received from those not in attendance.

## **ROLL OF LODGES**

The Secretary reported that all Mark and Royal Ark Mariner Lodges in the Province were represented.

## **APOLOGIES**

Apologies had been received from several Right Worshipful Brethren together with a number of Deputy Provincial Grand Masters, Assistant Provincial Grand Masters and Provincial Secretaries.

## REPORT OF PROVINCIAL GRAND SECRETARY 2016

### STATISTICS FOR YEAR ENDED 31/08/2015

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER AND BRETHREN , THE STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2015 ( THIS BEING THE LATEST DATE FOR WHICH WE HAVE ACCURATE FIGURES) SHOW THAT WE HAD 720 MEMBERS IN THE MARK DEGREE AND 327 MEMBERS IN THE ROYAL ARK MARINER DEGREE.

AS ALWAYS THESE NUMBERS CAN BE SOMEWHAT MISLEADING AS THEY ARE IN EFFECT , ALMOST A YEAR OUT OF DATE. THEY ALSO INCLUDE MEMBERS OF ADONIRAM LODGE TOGETHER WITH BRETHREN HOLDING DOUBLE AND IN SOME CASES TRIPLE LODGE MEMBERSHIP.

IN THE MARK DEGREE WE HAVE 12 MEMBERS HAVING BEEN ADVANCED BUT OVERALL WE LOST 51 MEMBERS THROUGH DEATHS , EXCLUSIONS , RESIGNATIONS AND HONORARY MEMBERSHIPS MAKING AN OVERALL LOSS OF 5.2%.

IN THE ROYAL ARK MARINER DEGREE DUAL MEMBERSHIP IS AGAIN INCLUDED.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF BRETHREN ELEVATED AMOUNTED TO 7 WHILE THE LOSS TO THE DEGREE CAME TO 22, A REDUCTION OF 4.1% OF THE MEMBERSHIP.

THE DATA BASE CONTINUES TO BE AN INVALUABLE ASSET IN THE RUNNING OF THE PROVINCE AND I THANK THE LODGE SCRIBES AND SECRETARIES FOR THEIR DILIGENCE IN INFORMING THE SECRETARIAT OF ALL CHANGES IN MEMBERS CIRCUMSTANCES, PARTICULARLY CHANGES IN CONTACT DETAILS AND ESPECIALLY NOTIFYING US OF DEATHS.

I WISH TO PLACE ON RECORD MY THANKS TO W.BRO.DAVID MOSES FOR HIS SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE IN THIS MY FIRST YEAR IN THE OFFICE OF PROVINCIAL GRAND SECRETARY ; ALSO TO MY DEPUTY W.BRO.CLIVE ROBSON AND W.BRO.JOHN BRYAN FOR THEIR INVALUABLE HELP IN THE DAY TO DAY RUNNING OF PROVINCIAL MARK OFFICE.

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER AND BRETHREN , THAT CONCLUDES MY REPORT.

## REPORT OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Thursday 21st July 2016.

The meeting was opened at 7.00pm by the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master. R.W.Bro Gordon Craigs, W.Bro S. Cairns, PGJD, DPGM, W.Bro. R. Northey PGJD, APMG. and a large number of Grand, Provincial and Lodge Officers in total 72.

The Brethren stood while the Provincial Grand Secretary W.Bro. C. Allan, G.Stwd read the names of those Brethren who had died in the year 31st July 2015 to date.

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 30th July 2015 were approved on the Proposition of W.Bro W. Gibson. Seconded by W.Bro. M. Tahir.

Apologies had been received from several Grand, Provincial and other Brethren and would be duly recorded.

All Mark and Royal Ark Mariner Lodges were represented.

The Audited Accounts were presented by W.Bro N.Reeve. Provincial Grand Treasurer and approved. Proposed By W.Bro. G. Morrison and seconded by W.Bro. A. Burn.

The Provincial Grand Secretary announced that only one nomination had been received for the Office of Provincial Grand Treasurer in the name of W.Bro N. H. Reeve, PPGJD of Thomas Purvis Lodge No 702.

T.D. Taxation Services were elected Auditors on the Proposition of W.Bro J. McNeil. Seconded by W.Bro.M. Saint

The Provincial Grand Secretary read the Statistics for the year ended 31st August 2015. He reported 720 membership in the Mark and 327 in the RAM Degree, which include dual and triple membership. 12 Advancees and 51 lost to Deaths, Exclusions, Resignations and Honorary members. Overall loss of 5.2%.

In the RAM degree, 7 Elevatees and a loss of 22, 4.1% of members.

He thanked the assistance given by W.Bro,s D. Moses, Clive Robson and John Bryan in Mark Provincial Office.

The report was approved on the proposition of W.Bro C. Robson and Seconded by W.Bro J. Bryan.

The report of the Northumberland Mark Benevolent Fund was presented by W.Bro Colin Narey Treasurer of the Fund and approved. Proposed by W.Bro. R. Walton and Seconded by W.Bro. G. Tuck.

Nominations were received for the re-election of W.Bro K. Thomson, PGSD. J.Y. Moralee, PAGDC and W.Bro Edwin Wilkinson, PAGDC to serve on the Benevolent Fund Committee which was approved on the proposition of W.Bro. M. Gair and seconded by W.Bro. R. Valentine

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master, W.Bro. S. Cairns, PGJD read the names of the Brethren Appointed to and Promoted in Provincial Grand Lodge for the year 2016 to 2017.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.45p.m.

**NORTHUMBERLAND PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS**

**Income & Expenditure Account for the Year Ended 5 April 2016**

	2016	2015	2014		2016	2015	2014
<b>Expenditure</b>				<b>Income</b>			
Mark AGM	2,811.88	2,697.00	2,760.55	Mark AGM	2,440.00	2,700.00	2,509.00
RAM AGM	891.00	800.00	770.00	RAM AGM	827.00	881.00	780.00
Officers Dinner	408.00	450.00	440.00	Officers Dinner	530.00	460.00	440.00
Postage & Stationery	1,202.71	1,277.59	1,254.41	Mark Dues	4,321.50	4,552.50	4,653.50
Rent	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	RAM Dues	1,110.25	814.89	1,127.50
Office Equipment	636.05	521.79	780.00	Interest Rec'd	11.30	10.32	201.18
Year Books	476.00	996.00	1,016.00	Donations	50.00	0.00	525.00
Website	0.00	0.00	299.60	Investiture	861.22	0.00	0.00
Auditors	180.00	0.00	0.00	Miscellaneous	22.00	0.00	0.00
Investiture	976.58	0.00	0.00				
Joining Initiative	302.00	0.00	0.00				
Miscellaneous	187.90	74.50	0.00				
Surplus for year	1,101.15	1,601.83	1,915.62				
	<u>10,173.27</u>	<u>9,418.71</u>	<u>10,236.18</u>		<u>10,173.27</u>	<u>9,418.71</u>	<u>10,236.18</u>

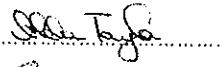
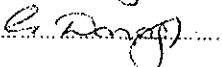
**Balance Sheet for the Year Ended 5 April 2016**

	2016	2015	2014		2016	2015	2014
<b>General Fund</b>				<b>Current Assets</b>			
Balance brought forward	24,204.61	22,602.78	20,687.16	Business Premium a/c	22,247.69	22,236.39	22,226.07
Surplus for year as above	<u>1,101.15</u>	<u>1,601.83</u>	<u>1,915.62</u>	Community a/c	13,377.05	12,356.42	10,199.91
	<u>25,305.76</u>	<u>24,204.61</u>	<u>22,602.78</u>	Creditors	-22.00		
<b>Reserve Fund</b>				Investiture / Banner Fund	751.22		
Balance brought forward	10,388.20	9,823.20	9,298.20				
Fees of Honour - Mark	460.00	425.00	345.00				
Fees of Honour - RAM	200.00	140.00	180.00				
	<u>11,048.20</u>	<u>10,388.20</u>	<u>9,823.20</u>				
	<u>36,353.96</u>	<u>34,592.81</u>	<u>32,425.98</u>		<u>36,353.96</u>	<u>34,592.81</u>	<u>32,425.98</u>

  
 Norman H Reeve  
 Provincial Grand Treasurer

**AUDITORS REPORT**

We have examined the above Income & Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet in accordance with Accounting Standards. In our opinion they give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of Northumberland Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Masons at 5 April 2016 and the surplus for the year ended on that date.

 ..... Helen Taylor  
 ..... Gill Donaghy MAAT

**NORTHUMBERLAND MARK BENEVOLENT FUND**  
**Year Ended 5 April 2016**

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 5 APRIL 2016**

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>		<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
UNRESTRICTED INCOME FUND			INVESTMENT & ASSETS		
As at 5 April 2015	107,201	92,322	<b>Cash and Bank deposits</b>		
Surplus income for the year	<u>(44,262)</u>	<u>14,879</u>	Cash at Bank	12,767	20,133
	62,939	107,201	Cash at COIF	21,739	83,523
			Cash at Building Society	2,044	2,041
Reserve for dependants claims	2,044	2,014	Fidelity Investment Account	21,532	
			Fidelity Investment Account	1000	
			(Uninvested Contingency)		
			<b>Other Assets</b>		
			Tax repayment claimed final	5,901	3,545
	<u><u>64,983</u></u>	<u><u>109,215</u></u>		<u><u>64,983</u></u>	<u><u>109,242</u></u>

W.Bro. Colin Narey ProvGChStwd  
Treasurer

**Approval of Accounts and Annual Report**

The Report and Accounts were approved by the Trustees on .....

Signed on behalf of the trustees:

.....

.....

**NORTHUMBERLAND MARK BENEVOLENT FUND**  
**Statement of Financial Activities Year Ended 5 April 2016**

<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
<b>Administration cost</b>			Members Gift Aid Contributions	23,605	14,181
Secretary and Treasurers Expenses	248	205			
Purchase of Regalia for RRI	128	200			
Lottery Licence Fee	-	-	<b>Tax Reclaimable for year</b>		
RRI Expenses	215	163	Repayable after year end	5,901	3,545
Deposit for 2016/17/18 BBQ's	70	35	Previous year underprovision	5	2
Wine for Social 11/4/16	0	-			
Whisky for May Raffle	108	-			
Investment Adviser Fee	500	-			
Mark Pennies & Keyrings	326	-			
Accountancy Fee	180	-			
Ties	990	-			
<b>Donations to festivals</b>			<b>Donations Received</b>		
Worcestershire	-	2,500	Lodges	5,154	4,263
Devonshire	2,000	-	Other Orders	0	176
			Members	859	925
<b>Other Charitable Donations</b>			Special	1,221	1,388
HCAG	-	230			
Autism Northumberland	-	500	<b>Sales</b>		
North Northumberland Hospice	-	250	Ties	286	192
The Cystic Fibrosis Trust	-	1,350	Coins and keyrings	56	-
Guide Dogs	650	-	Investment Admin Comp'	155	-
Young & Sweet	250	-			
Thrive	250	-	<b>Fundraising Events</b>		
MSA Trust	1,250	-	Other	2,221	2,208
MS Society	250	-	Sale of Raffle Tickets	320	-
Cambois Primary School	250	-			
NECCR	250	-	<b>Investment Income</b>		
MBF on account for 2031 festival;	53,550	-	Leeds Building Society	3	3
Patrons and Stewards Dues	21,669	5,931	COIF	216	363
C'land & W'morland re Flood Appeal	1,000	-	Increase in value of investments	532	-
Bedlington Mas Bldg co re Defibrilator	250	-			
Blyth Mas Bldg co re Defibrilator	250	-			
Cancer Research UK	25	-			
N'cle Hospitals NHS Charity	25	-			
Peoples Kitchen	25	-			
RCIU	25	-			
KTs re St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital	59	-			
Transfer to Reserve for Grants	3	3			
Transfer to Reserve for Grants	-	1,000			
	<u>84,796</u>	<u>12,367</u>			
Surplus of Income over Expenditure	<u>(44,262)</u>	<u>14,879</u>			
	<u>40,534</u>	<u>27,246</u>		<u>40,534</u>	<u>27,246</u>

**NORTHUMBERLAND MARK BENEVOLENT FUND**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the Year Ended 5 April 2016**

**ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

- [a] These Accounts have been prepared on an accruals basis under historical cost convention in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting for Charities.
- [b] Investment income is accounted for gross in the year for which it falls due.
- [c] The Northumberland Mark Benevolent Fund is a registered charity and is not subject to taxation. Tax recoverable on income receivable for a specific year is accounted for on the accruals basis.

**INCOME DURING THE YEAR FROM FUND RAISING EVENTS**

Social	111
BBQ	629
NMBF AGM Raffle	129
Prov AGM Raffle	353
Social	517
Social	482

2,221

**STOCK OF TIES**

At 5 April 2016 there was a stock of Mark and Royal Ark Mariner ties, the value of which is not accounted for in the financial statements.

**DEPENDANTS GRANTS ACCOUNT**

	<u>Grand Lodge MBF</u>	<u>N'land MBF</u>	<u>Total</u>
Balance b/fwd at 5 April 2015	1,000	1,041	2,041
Received from Grand Lodge ME	1,500		1,500
Transfer from General Funds	0	0	0
Interest		3	3
	<u>2,500</u>	<u>1,044</u>	<u>3,544</u>
Grants to dependants	(1,500)		(1,500)
Transfer to General Funds			
	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,044</u>	<u>2,044</u>

Northumberland Mark Benevolent Fund

Schedule of Lodge Donations in the Year ended 6th April 2016

Lodge Name	Degree	Lodge No	Brought Fwd 6.4.15	G Patrons Gold 6.4.15	Grand Patrons 6.4.15	Patrons and V. Patrons 6.4.15	Donations 2015/16	Transfers from Former Members	Total C/Fwd 6.4.16	G Patrons Gold 6.4.16	Grand Patrons 6.4.16	Patrons and V. Patrons 6.4.16
North Berwick	Mark	71	2416.44	2	6	21	400.00	905.70	3722.14	2	7	22
	RAMs		1110.00				150.00		1260.00			
Hotspur with Coquetdale	Mark	135	0.00						0.00			
Hotspur	RAMs		1692.63		3	11	100.00		1792.63		4	11
St Cuthberts	Mark	192	550.00				50.00		600.00			
	RAMs		400.00			1			400.00			1
Tristram	Mark	346	70.00						70.00			
	RAMs		3108.86	1	4	12	50.00		3158.86	1	4	13
Gosforth	Mark	463	550.00				50.00	600.00				
Hartford	Mark	546	1494.06		2	9	82.50		1576.56		2	10
	RAMs		3957.68		5	20	180.00	149.40	4287.08		6	20
Blagdon	Mark	547	1250.00				50.00		1300.00			
	RAMs		1637.94		2	8	10.00	528.45	2176.39	1	2	10
Morpeith	Mark	691	625.00				50.00		675.00			
	RAMs		1751.19		4	12	150.00		1901.19		5	13
Thomas Purvis	Mark	702	895.00			1		895.00			1	
Unity	Mark	708	7827.45	2	6	10	100.00	460.51	8387.96	2	7	11
Haven	Mark	750	1066.40		1	4	50.00		1116.40		1	5
	RAMs		1353.36		6	24	50.00	10.25	1413.61		6	24
Amble	Mark	780	2341.82					2341.82				
Whitley	Mark	788	736.25			3	100.00		836.25		1	3
	RAMs		1234.06		1	10	50.00		1284.06		1	12
Ashington	Mark	890	707.80			1	100.00		807.80			1
	RAMs		1990.60	1	3	20	50.00		2040.60	2	3	21
Carville	Mark	958	700.00				50.00		750.00			
	RAMs		2238.85	1	5	10	200.00		2438.85	1	5	10
Risingham	Mark	1033	1000.00				50.00	1050.00				
Purcell	Mark		1352.00		1	4	200.00		1552.00		1	5
Newgate	Mark	1141	Lodge closed 2012/13				Lodge closed 2012/13					
Grainger	Mark	1147	1442.05		2	7	75.00	132.50	1649.55		3	9
	RAMs		620.00			1	50.00		670.00			1
Nepos	Mark	1155	3491.38		5	27	152.50	60.44	3724.32		6	27
Hexham	Mark	1161	1945.00		1	4	200.00		2145.00	2	1	5
	RAMs		2541.58		2	12	110.00		2851.58		2	14
Backworth	Mark	1180	800.00				100.00		900.00			
	RAMs		3287.66		2	17	200.00	43.04	3530.70		2	20
Cramlington	Mark	1235	760.00				100.00	860.00				
De Umfraville	Mark	1270	1482.50		7	12	100.00		1582.50		6	12
	RAMs		1030.80		2	9	288.97		1319.77		2	9
Haltwhistle	Mark	1278	Lodge closed 2011/12				Lodge closed 2011/12					
De La Val	Mark	1290	1377.80		1	7	200.00		1577.80		1	7
	RAMs		1774.97		3	10	100.00	41.82	1916.79		4	12
Ridley	Mark		625.00					625.00				
Adoniram	Mark	1483	Lodge closed 2012/13				Lodge closed 2012/13					
Triangle	Mark	1483	1288.00			1			1288.00			1
	RAMs		2071.00				200.00		2271.00			
Geo Stephanson	Mark	1527	1523.50		1	10	200.00		1723.50		1	14
Fame	Mark	1540	1127.80		1	4	100.00		1227.80		1	4
	RAMs		900.00						900.00			
Ponteland	Mark	1550	2911.43		5	15	105.00		3016.43		5	17
Newbiggin	Mark		Lodge closed 2011/12				Lodge closed 2011/12					
Oriental	Mark	1890	Lodge closed 2014/15				Lodge closed 2014/15					
	Mark		2321.24			1	550.00		2871.24		1	2
			79108.30	7	81	318	5153.97	2352.11	84985.18	11	92	347



### **ELECTION OF TREASURER**

The Right Worshipful Grand Master announced that as only one nomination had been received and in the absence of any other nomination WBro Norman Harry Reeve of Thomas Purvis Lodge No 702 was duly re-elected as Provincial Grand Treasurer.

### **ELECTION OF THREE PROVINCIAL OFFICERS TO SERVE ON THE BENEVOLENT FUND COMMITTEE**

The Right Worshipful Grand Master announced that as there being only three nominations, WBro K. Thompson PGSD, WBro J.Y. Moralee PAGDC and WBro T.E. Wilkinson PAGDC were elected to serve on the Benevolent Fund Committee.

### **ELECTION OF AUDITORS**

T.D. Taxation Services were re-elected to serve as Provincial auditors.

## APPOINTMENT AND INVESTITURE OF PROVINCIAL OFFICERS FOR 2016-2017

### (Active Ranks)

			Lodge No.
Senior Warden	WBro James Alexander Thompson	Hotspur with Coquetdale	135
Junior Warden	WBro Colin Hume	Ashington	890
Master Overseer	WBro John Cummings	Newgate	1141
Senior Overseer	WBro Ian Potter	Farne	1540
Junior Overseer	WBro Keith Ireland	Whitley	788
Chaplain	WBro Stephen Young*	Newgate	1141
Treasurer	WBro Norman Harry Reeve*	Thomas Purvis	702
Registrar	WBro Graham Rowley	Grainger	1147
Secretary	WBro Christopher Allan*	Morpeth	691
Director of Ceremonies	WBro Leslie Frederick Francis	Nepos	1155
Inspector of Works	WBro Joseph Colin Dodds	Hotspur with Coquetdale	135
Sword Bearer	Duncan Cruicskank McIsaac*	Newgate	1141
Deputy Chaplain	WBro Joseph Hannan*	Re-appointment	
Deputy Secretary	WBro Clive Walton Robson*	De La Val	1290
Deputy DC	WBro Raymond Arthur Walton*	Ponteland	1550
Senior Deacon	WBro Geoffrey Todd	Grainger	1147
Senior Deacon	WBro Albert Paterson	Whitley	788
Junior Deacon	WBro Ian Russell McArthur	Tristram	346
Junior Deacon	WBro Hugh Ross Cree	Backworth	1189
Charity Steward	WBro Colin Neary*	Nepos	1155
Assistant Chaplain	WBro George Percy Jobling	Cramlington	1235
Assistant Secretary	WBro John Henry Bryan*	Cramlington	1235
Assistant DC	WBro John Thomas Spearman*	Northld. & Berwick	T.I.
Assistant DC	WBro William Tindle*	Nepos	1155
Almoner	WBro Stephen Matthews*	Morpeth	691
Assistant Almoner	WBro Matthew David Edward Auld*	Morpeth	691
Organist	WBro George Angus*	Amble	780
Standard Bearer	WBro Douglas Arthur Reynolds*	Whitley	788
Inner Guard	WBro David William Campbell*	Ponteland	1550
Steward	Bro Kenneth Wilson	Ashington	890
Tyler	WBro Peter Ward*	Unity	708

\* Re-appointment

## PROMOTIONS

			Lodge No.
PProvGJW	WBro John Thomas Spearman	Northumberland & Berwick	T.I.
PProvGJW	WBro Henry James Mason	St. Cuthbert's	192
PProvGJW	WBro David Alexander Eden	Thomas Purvis	702
PProvGJW	WBro George Milligan	Unity	708
PProvGJW	WBro Jeffrey Herbert Hawkesby	De La Val	1290
PProvGJW	WBro Thomas Grey	Grainger	1147
PProvGJW	WBro Alan Robson	George Stephenson	1527
PProvGJW	WBro Colin Willis	George Stephenson	1527
PProvGJW	WBro Raymond Arthur Walton	Ponteland	1550
PProvGJW	WBro Godfrey Young	Hexham	1161
PProvGMO	WBro Gursharan Singh Sarang	Tristram	346
PProvGMO	WBro Robert John Catchpole	Amble	780
PProvGMO	WBro Robert Long	Cramlington	1235
PProvGSO	WBro Scott Albert Thomas Grant	Gosforth	463
PProvGJO	WBro Robert Edward Stephenson	Farne	1540
PProvGSwdBr	WBro John Henry Bryan	Cramlington	1235

## PRESENTATION OF MARK BENEVOLENT FUND JEWELS AND COLLARETTES

### Life Subscribers

WBro W. T. Bathgate	Hotspur with Coquetdale	135
WBro A. S. Pannu	Oriental	1890
WBro J. S. Chan	Tristram	346
WBro J. E. Hindhaugh	Blagdon	547
WBro B. Rudd	Backworth	1189
WBro P. Ward	Unity	708
WBro R. G. Angus	Amble	780
WBro R. C. Clark	Amble	780
WBro M. M. Thomas	St. Cuthbert	192
WBro G. Todd	Grainger	1147
WBro W. Tindle	Nepos	1155
WBro D. H. Moffett	Cramlington	1235
Bro J. T. Stobbs	Cramlington	1235
WBro C. S. Watt	Haven	750

### Vice Patrons

WBro J. J. Miekle	Gosforth	463
WBro D. B. Sanderson	George Stephenson	1527
WBro R. A. Walton	Ponteland	1550
WBro J. S. Dresser	Oriental	1890

## PRESENTATION OF MARK BENEVOLENT FUND JEWELS AND COLLARETTES

( contd. )

### Patrons

WBro A. Finlay	Gosforth	463
WBro G. J. Potts	Hartford	546
WBro M. Saint	Blagdon	547
VWBro F. C. Main	Risingham	1033
WBro D. Jowett	Hexham	1161
WBro P. J. Barsack	Haltwhistle	1278
WBro D. G. Ord	De La Val	1290

### Grand Patrons

WBro M. Gair	Ashington	890
WBro R. W. Crow	Risingham	1033
WBro J. N. Bruce	Newgate	1141
WBro G. Rowley	Grainger	1147
WBro P. A. Cooke	Backworth	1189
WBro G. E. Henderson	George Stephenson	1527

## ADDRESS BY THE PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER

### RWBro Gordon Craigs

Good afternoon brethren and a warm welcome to each and every one of you, to this our Annual Provincial Meeting.

The annual meeting not only gives me the opportunity to reflect on the past year but also to express my thoughts concerning what I hope we will achieve in the coming year.

At the Festive Board there will be a toast to our Distinguished Guests but I would personally like to formally welcome them and ask that you withhold your spontaneous and rapturous applause until the end. For some of our visitors it is the first and hopefully not the last occasion that we have had the pleasure of their company. For others it will be the last in their present capacity but once again I am sure it won't be their last visit to this meeting.

Can I also give a warm welcome to our Past Deputies V. W. Bros Mike Louis and Fred Main and our past Assistant V.W. Bro Ian Daniel, we are delighted to have your company. As is the usual practice I would now like to mention the heads of other orders whom have joined us here this morning.

First of all, I welcome W. Bro Alan Hume, Provincial Prior for Northumberland. Then we have W. Bro Michael Daws Inspector General the Rose Croix and the Intendant General in the Red Cross of Constantine, W. Bro John Harvey District Grand Master of the Royal and Select Masters and W. Bro Alan Radford, Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler in the Order of the Secret Monitor.

RW. Bro Peter Croft has already been mentioned as part of the delegation from Durham but with his other two hats he is the District Grand Prefect of the of the Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees and the President of the General Board at Mark Masons Hall.

Brethren please acclaim our guests.

## ADDRESS BY THE PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER (contd)

Once again in the summer TI Lodge made use of their travelling warrant and held their meeting in Bellingham which was a great success with over sixty brethren dining at the festive board and all money raised during the night went to the benevolent fund.

The meeting was attended by the then Assistant Grand Master, R.W. Bro Ray Smith who made the significant journey north to be with us despite his wife's ill health.

My thanks go to the members of TI for organising the event as well as the brethren of Risingham Mark for their assistance in facilitating the occasion.

A substantial number of our brethren travelled down to London in June to Grand Lodge and I am certain a good time was had by the majority. I am aware of the technical difficulties in Freemasons Hall which did reduce the enjoyment of occasion for some brethren but rest assured that Mark Masons Hall were most dissatisfied with the situation, which was out of their hands, and are taking steps to prevent a reoccurrence.

I would now like to mention those brethren who were appointed to and would ask them to stand when their names are called.

We received two acting ranks, W. Bro Les Francis was promoted to Grand Junior Deacon and W. Bro Chris Allan was appointed as a Grand Steward. W. Bro Richard Northey was promoted to Past Grand Junior Deacon as was W. Bro Colin Narey. W. Bro Bob Angus was appointed to Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies as were W. Bros Stephen Matthews and Alexander Thompson.

Last but by no means least W. Bro Graham Howie was appointed to Past Assistant Grand Sword Bearer. Congratulations to all of these brethren and may they live long to enjoy the honour bestowed on them.

To the officers of Provincial Grand Lodge who were appointed last year I would like to thank them for the support they have given and hope that they have enjoyed the year. Visiting lodges and making new friends is, I think, one of the major attributes and benefits of freemasonry and being a freemason, especially in our wonderful order. I would particularly like to thank the two wardens, W. Bro. Michael Gair and W. Bro. Alan Sherett for not only the work done in preparing toasts to lodges but in addition for their company on visits to other provinces.

## ADDRESS BY THE PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER (contd)

W. Bro Alan has in particular travelled many hundreds of miles with me and other members of the executive visiting other provinces, if I was able to appoint a provincial chauffeur he would certainly be the first in line.

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 an even greater responsibility to work diligently for the good of their lodge as well as the province. I will ask 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.

In early summer we had what was the first provincial weekend when a small number of brethren and their wives had a delightful couple of days Marshall Meadows Hotel in the Scottish borders. We were well looked after by the hotel and most importantly well fed and I hope to repeat the occasion at a date to be announced before the end of the year when I am optimistic more couples will be able to join us.

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 Accounts. W. Bro. Tom Grey and his band of merry men strive to and succeed in making every event both a financial and social success, long may this continue.

Over the past couple of years my deputy had delivered a number of talks at Mark meetings to which potential members were invited. With the permission of our Provincial Grand Master, who will incidentally be joining us for lunch I intend spreading the message further by giving briefings at Craft meetings. So brethren, if your Craft lodge has a free night, why not contact me through the provincial office and I or my Deputy or Assistant will come along and tell those brethren who have not seen the light what they are missing. Additionally, at the Craft Annual Provincial Meeting in November there will be a display giving information about the Mark.

Please approach brethren who may be potential members of the Mark, you would be surprised how many people when I've asked why they're not members have replied "Well nobody has asked me".



## ADDRESS BY THE PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER (contd)

Remaining with the modern communication theme I had intended to launch the province's Facebook page, which has been set up by W. Bro Peter Younger, at this meeting. However, events overtook me and the handover of the Northumbria blood bikes was too good an opportunity to miss. Again details of the method of accessing the page will be circulated soon. Can I thank W. Bro John Watt of Durham Province for bringing the blood bike here this morning, unfortunately John was unable to stay as he has an engagement this afternoon not, I hasten to add, involving the blood bike.

Northumbria Blood Bikes is a charitable organisation established by local volunteers to deliver essential blood and urgent medical supplies, out of hours, between hospitals and healthcare sites and laboratories in North East England.

For those of you who are not aware the Mark Benevolent Fund donated £18,000 to cover the cost of purchasing and kitting out the bike as well as its running costs.

You cannot fail to have noticed W. Bro Ian Brown selling his book in the lobby. W. Bro Ian has invested much time in pulling the book together which contains a vast amount of information for Northumberland Masons. As well as time W. Bro Ian has also invested financially as he has paid to have the books printed himself and all money raised from their sale will go to the Northumberland Mark Benevolent Fund. Can I now put on record my sincere thanks to W. Bro Ian for his hard work and generosity.

Last February a number of brethren from Northumberland travelled to Spain to attend the annual meeting of that district. Not only did this give the brethren the opportunity to sample Spain's winter climate which is, I have to say, considerably warmer than it is here. Additionally, those who are fans of the television series *Benidorm* were able to visit the hotel where some of the scenes are filmed.

We were well entertained by the province as, apart from the meeting on Saturday, there was a demonstration of the Mark degree delivered by a team of Scottish masons the previous afternoon. It is my intention to return to Spain next year, I know some brethren are so keen to attend they have already booked flights and accommodation.

Again details will be circulated soon and I will leave it up to those attending to make their own travel and accommodation arrangements.

## ADDRESS BY THE PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER (contd)

The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> July 2017 sees the culmination of the 149<sup>th</sup> Mark Benevolent Fund Festival in Berkshire. It is my intention to travel to Berkshire with my wife and I invite as many brethren as are able to attend. Even if you cannot attend I encourage to you make a contribution towards the festival by wearing the festival badges which are on sale in the foyer for the princely sum of £5 and all money from the sale of these badges will go towards the festival.

It has now come to the time when I must I must draw my address to a close. I would like to thank you brethren for the attention you have paid this morning and to wish you well in the coming year in every respect.

May the Great Overseer of the universe have you in his holy keeping now and for evermore.

## **NEXT ANNUAL MEETING**

The Provincial Grand Secretary notified the Brethren that a provisional booking had been made for Newcastle East Masonic Hall on Saturday 23rd. September 2017, under the banners of :-

Tristram Lodge No. 346

Newgate Lodge no.1141

Nepos Lodge no. 1155

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Provincial Grand Secretary announced that he had no further business to bring before Provincial Grand Lodge.

## **COLLECTION**

A collection was made for the Northumberland Mark Benevolent Fund

## **CLOSING**

Provincial grand Lodge was closed in due form. After singing the first verse of the National Anthem, the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master retired in procession.

The right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master was joined for lunch by 180 Brethren where all Mark Toasts were observed.

*Signed:*