

PROGRESSIVE ORDERS OF FREEMASONRY IN SURREY





Foreword by RW Bro Ian Chandler.



I am delighted to be asked to write the foreword to this Guide to Other Orders booklet. You may know that I am myself a member of several of the orders detailed here. Indeed, I am an advocate of Surrey Masons joining other Orders, to continue their journey in Freemasonry and extend their knowledge and enjoyment.

It will come as no surprise to hear me say that the right time to join any other order is after becoming a member of the Holy Royal Arch, thereby completing your journey in pure ancient Freemasonry as set out in the Book of Constitutions.

But there is more to learn and discover. You will find here information about numerous degrees which build on the teaching of the Craft and Royal Arch, or indeed open your mind to new areas not touched on in the Solomonic legend. With so much choice, I advise you to think about what you most enjoy about your Freemasonry and consider whether this will be expanded in this particular order or unit. Each has several different units, each with a different heritage and character. Should you so desire some units may allow you to progress swiftly, while others may have a longer waiting list allowing you more time. In addition, there are meetings all across Surrey giving you the opportunity to meet at a different location, make new friends and see a different aspect of Freemasonry.

Whatever you choose, I am sure you will really enjoy your new journey and build a deeper understanding of the Craft.

I wish you well and look forward to seeing you in a different setting in the future!

Ian Chandler

Ian Chandler

Provincial Grand Master of the Craft Province of Surrey.
Grand Superintendent in and over the Royal Arch Province of Surrey

CONTENTS

Mark Master Masons	2 - 3
Royal Ark Mariner	4 - 5
Priory of Knights Templar	6 - 7
The Ancient and Accepted Rite (Rose Croix)	8 - 9
Red Cross of Constantine	10 - 11
Royal and Select Masters	12 - 13
Allied Masonic Degrees	14 - 15
Order of the Secret Monitor	16 - 17
The Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord	18 - 19
The Worshipful Society of Operative Freemasons	20 - 21
The Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests	22
The Order of Holy Wisdom	23
The Royal Order of Scotland	24 - 25
Societas Rosicruciana in Anglia	26 - 27
St Thomas of Acon	28 - 29
The Masonic Order of Athelstan	30 - 31
Other Masonic Orders in Surrey (Logos)	32

MARK MASTER MASONS OF SURREY



The Mark degree in Freemasonry, which greatly enhances a Craft Mason's understanding of operative masonry, has been practised very successfully in Surrey for over 150 years.

We currently have over 40 Mark Lodges meeting at centres across the Province.

The Origins of Mark Masonry

It is well known that operative stone masons indented the stones they had prepared with special marks. These were of two types, those that indicated the orientation and position of the stone within the building together with a personal mark to identify the mason who prepared it.

The first mention of a brother being made a Mark Mason was at a Lodge in Newcastle in January 1756, although earlier references to a brother having "received his mark" are known. But it is not clear from these records whether a degree ceremony was being worked.

The earliest records of a speculative Mark degree being worked in England are those of Royal Arch Chapter No 257 at Portsmouth on 1 September 1769 when several brethren were made Mark Masons and Mark Masters. It was introduced to the Chapter by that very well known Masonic figure, Thomas Dunkerley. As to where he obtained it is a matter that merits more detailed investigation. Note that in the earlier working the Mark Man and Mark Master were performed as two distinct degrees as opposed to the present practice of the Mark Man forming no more than an introductory phase to the Mark Master Degree. It is also apparent from the earlier working that the Mark Man degree was conferred on Fellow Crafts and the Mark Master Degree on Master Masons.

The early Mark Degrees were closely associated with the Royal Arch, as they still are in many parts of the world. Their development probably followed soon after that of the Royal Arch. Many different ceremonies were known to exist, parts of which would be recognisable to the present day.

It is also clear that the Mark Degrees were worked in Craft Lodges and in Royal Arch Chapters up until 1813. The existence of independent Mark Lodges at this time is not known, although one lodge, the Lodge of Hope, Bradford, conferred the Degree under a constitution originating from a body called "The Grand Lodge of All England, held at York". Its influence in this country was confined to York, Cheshire and Lancashire. It was formed in 1725 and existed until 1792 but its influence abroad is more important.

After 1813 the Mark Degree continued to grow in popularity and was worked, unofficially, in Craft Lodges and Royal Arch Chapters – a very unsatisfactory state of affairs.

The eventual establishment of a separate English Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons in 1856 came after an intriguing period of manoeuvring and negotiation.

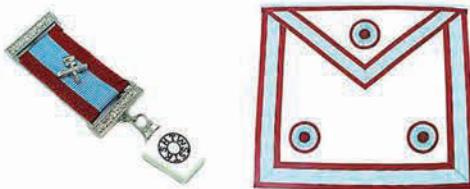
The Ceremony in Mark Masonry

The Ceremony is based on the preparations for the building of King Solomon's Temple and follows the fate of an ambitious craftsman (the candidate) seeking promotion in his trade by demonstrating his skill and ability. In the early part of the ceremony his talents go unrecognised and his hopes and dreams are dashed, but eventually he triumphs over adversity and is justly rewarded for his work.

It is a wonderful ceremony containing elements of drama and humour, but above all strong moral lessons. The concept of Masons as "living stones" being built into a spiritual house, in parallel with the construction of the Temple, is a powerful theme in this Degreee.

Mark Regalia

The regalia worn today was first designed for and worn by the members of the London Bon Accord Mark Lodge in 1856. A Mark Master mason wears an apron similar to that of a Master Mason in the Craft except that the Mark Apron is bordered with light blue with crimson edges. He also wears a breast jewel in the form of a keystone suspended from a ribbon of light blue and crimson.



Qualification for Admission

The Structure of Mark Grand Lodge is similar to that of the United Grand Lodge of England. In size of membership the Mark ranks third, after the Craft and the Royal Arch.

Admission requires that a candidate should be a Master Mason of a constitution recognised by the English Craft Grand Lodge.

Why should a Craft Mason be a Mark Mason?

Many reasons could be given but three are of special importance. Firstly, it enhances knowledge of Craft Masonry. Secondly, it teaches, in a delightful way, many important practical lessons about life. Thirdly, it gives a greater appreciation of the Royal Arch and provides a qualification to certain other Orders in Masonry.



For further information please contact the
Provincial Grand Secretary
email provsec@markmastermasons.org.uk
or visit our web site: www.markmastermasons.org.uk

THE ANCIENT AND HONOURABLE FRATERNITY OF ROYAL ARK MARINER



The Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariner, more commonly known as RAM, has been under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons since 1871 and governed by the Grand Master's Royal Ark Council.

In common with other Masonic orders, the origin of the Royal Ark Mariner degree is not certain. There are several references to Noah and his Ark in early manuscripts, including Anderson's constitutions of 1723.

Actual degrees with a Noachite theme emerged later, for example Patriarch Noachite or Prussian Knight in the 1760s, now the 21st Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Rite. However, the earliest authenticated record of a Royal Ark Mariner Degree being worked in England, in a form that we would recognise, is 1790. Several attempts at establishing a "Grand Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners" came to nothing. Eventually, in 1871, the Order was taken under the wing of the Mark Grand Lodge. Prior to this the degree was worked in Craft and Mark Lodges and elsewhere.

The Order has two ceremonies: the Degree of Royal Ark Mariner, by which a brother is admitted (or elevated) to the Order and the ceremony of Installation by which the Commander Elect is installed in the Chair of a Royal Ark Mariner Lodge.

The ceremony of Elevation is a delightful one with many unique features. It is based on the story of Noah and his Ark and teaches that the virtuous and industrious will prosper.

It commemorates the providence and mercy of God and relates to the legend of the Flood. The content of the ceremony is taken directly from The Bible and is naturally both beautiful and instructive. When the candidate enters the Lodge room his attention is directed to the three pillars of Wisdom, Strength and Beauty, and at one stage the Ark is momentarily symbolised in terms similar to the Ark of Salvation. The candidate is finally instructed to advance in the spirit of the Cardinal Virtues.

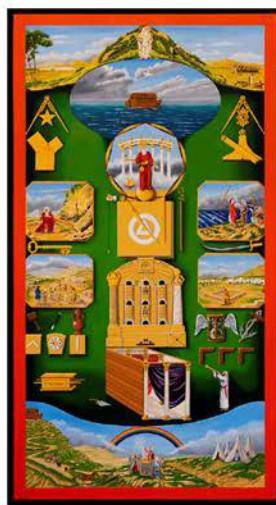


The Flood is a story of cleansing and rebirth, where the wicked and impenitent perished in the deluge while the faithful and the good, represented by Noah and his family, were saved to repopulate the earth. The Installation ceremony is equally special and quite different from that of other orders.



Lodges are attached, or moored, to Mark Lodges assuming their Number in the Roll and to be a member the Candidate has to have been advanced as a Mark Master Mason. There the similarity ends. In chronological terms it precedes the Mark by hundreds of years because it relates to the building and voyage of Noah's Ark and the Great Flood and has none of the other characters that we meet in Freemasonry.

There are no individual Ranks within either Province or Grand Lodge. Brethren holding those Ranks suffix their name with Royal Ark Mariner Provincial Grand Rank or Royal Ark Mariner Grand Rank. The Grand Master of the Mark is, ipso facto, the Grand Master of the Degree of Royal Ark Mariner. The apron and emblems of this degree are easily recognizable by the ark and rainbow motif,



The beautiful Royal Ark Mariner Tracing Board has been re-painted. The explanation of the Tracing Board is quite long and is often given in sections by a number of Brethren.

Most Royal Ark Mariner Lodges meet three times per year, usually on the same evening as their Mark Lodge. In some instances the RAM Installation may be held at a different meeting so as to allow the incoming Worshipful Commander to preside over the Festive Board and to have "his own" evening.

The officers of a Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners are similar to those in a Mark Lodge although they bear different names. The Master is known as The Worshipful Commander, the Secretary as the Scribe, the Inner Guard as the Guardian and the Tyler as the Warden.

The Principal Officers represent Noah (Worshipful Commander) and his two sons Japheth (Senior Warden) and Shem (Junior Warden). The Wardens sit, as in the Craft Lodges of old, in the North West and South West of the Lodge room respectively, the Deacons being stationed together in the West.

Today the Order is thriving. In the Mark Province of Surrey, nearly all the Mark Lodges have a Royal Ark Mariner Lodge attached and most meet on the same day. Interested brethren will learn more about this splendid Order once they become Mark Master Masons, which is an essential qualification.

For more information contact the Provincial Grand Secretary
Provsec@markmastermasons.org.uk

United Religious, Military and Masonic Orders of the Temple and of St John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes and Malta, in England and Wales and Provinces Overseas



PROVINCIAL PRIORY OF SURREY



The earliest references to this Masonic Order occur around 1777, but it was not until 1845 that the ritual was standardised and the Order steadily expanded. Today there are over 600 Preceptories on the roll of The Great Priory of England. Whilst there is no claim to any historical connection to the medieval Military Orders of this name the ritual is based around its history and exploits and the "Rule" of the Order given to them by the Pope.



Knights Templar meetings are held in a Preceptory and ruled over by an Eminent Preceptor. The regalia is most impressive, being based on the costume of the medieval counterparts and comprises a mantle, tunic, cap, sash, cross, star, belt and sword. This degree commemorates the actions of a band of knights who were granted a place of habitation within the sacred precincts of King Solomon's Temple by Baldwin II, King of Jerusalem in 1118. A candidate for installation is admitted in the character and garb of a pilgrim and is required, symbolically, to undergo a period of pilgrimage and warfare as well as to undertake the vows of a crusader. Having conducted himself courageously, he is then instructed how penance and meditation play their vital part in the preparation for Christian Knighthood. Finally, he is received, clothed, armed and proclaimed a Knight of the Temple.

Knights of St Paul is a short passing or introductory degree which precedes the main ceremony and is held in a Chapter of the Knights of St Paul. In this degree we learn of the travels of St Paul and how he arrived on the island of Malta.



Knights of Malta meetings are held in a Priory and ruled over by an Eminent Prior. The Priory is normally only opened either to receive new Knights of the Order, or at the installation of the new Eminent Prior. This degree of Christian Knighthood recounts the history of the Knights of Malta and their long struggle against the infidel. It traces their progress from the time they left Jerusalem until they reached their final home on the island of Malta. The attention of all Candidates is drawn to the presence of five officers who assume the role of personal staff of the Grand Master, while the other officers represent the heads of the eight Langues or Tongues, into which the ancient Order was divided. There is an extremely interesting traditional history, given as the final part of the ceremony. The ritual has an obvious esoteric meaning, being one of mystical resurrection.

A full description of the Order, its history, structure, provinces & districts and officers, may be found on the Surrey Provincial website: www.surreyknights.org

THE PRECEPTORIES OF SURREY

Temple Court Preceptory No. 162 meets at Guildford on 1st Tue Feb (i), 2nd Tue May and 1st Tue Nov.

Preceptory of Croydon No. 196 meets at Croydon on 2nd Mon Mar, 2nd Mon Jun (i) and 4th Mon Nov.

Kyngstun Preceptory No. 225 meets at Surbiton on 3rd Tue Mar (i), 3rd Tue Sep and 3rd Tue Dec.

Chertsey Preceptory No. 304 meets at Chertsey, on 2nd Tue Feb, 4th Tue Apr and 3rd Tue Oct (i).

St Saviours Preceptory No. 338 meets at Sutton, on 4th Fri Mar, 1st Fri May and 1st Fri Dec (i).

Gascoigne Preceptory No. 360 meets at Croydon on 1st Mon Feb (i), 1st Mon Apr and 1st Mon Oct.

****Preceptory of St George at Stoneleigh No. 364** meets at Surbiton on 3rd Sat Jan and 3rd Sat Sep (i).

****Preceptory of St John at Stoneleigh No. 378** meets at Surbiton, on 3rd Sat Mar (i) and 4th Sat Oct.

Sacryham Preceptory No. 425 meets at Croydon on 4th Thu Jan (i), 3rd Mon Apr and 3rd Mon Nov.

Emmaus Preceptory No. 446 (Past Preceptors) meets at Surbiton on 4th Mon Apr (i) and 3rd Fri Sep.

Whyte Stone Preceptory No. 447 meets at Farnham on 4th Tue Feb, 4th Tue May and 3rd Mon Oct (i).

Stephen Langton Preceptory No. 478 meets at Nutfield (Redhill) on 4th Wed Feb, 4th Wed Apr and 3rd Wed Dec (i)

Agincourt Preceptory No. 517 meets at Camberley on 3rd Tue Feb, 3rd Tue Apr and 4th Tue Nov(i).

Praesidium Legati Preceptory No 570 (Bodyguard) meets at Surbiton on 4th Thu Feb, 3rd Fri Jun and 3rd Fri Nov(i).

Pride of Surrey Preceptory No. 584 meets at Sutton on 2nd Tue Feb (i), 2nd Tue May and 2nd Tue Sep.

****Nutfield Preceptory No. 598** meets at Nutfield (Redhill) on 2nd Sat Mar, 4th Sat Jun and 4th Sat Oct (i).

St Catherine's Preceptory No. 607 meets at Godalming on 4th Wed Jan, 4th Wed Apr (i) and 4th Wed Oct.

St Michael at Bisley No 693 meets at Bisley Camp on 1st Fri Feb, 2nd Fri Jun and 3rd Fri Oct (i).

***** Preceptories meet in the morning and there's a joint Malta Degree meeting on the 4th Sat in June.***

All enquiries to the Provincial Vice Chancellor:- vc@surreyknights.org

THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE FOR ENGLAND AND WALES AND ITS DISTRICTS AND CHAPTERS OVERSEAS

DISTRICT OF SURREY



As the Craft degrees have evolved over time, so too have the independent Orders of Freemasonry and rituals peculiar to them. Prominent among them in England and Wales is the Ancient and Accepted Rite, whose Chapters are grouped into Districts and administered by The Supreme Council 33rd Degree, whose headquarters are located at No. 10, Duke Street, St. James' London. The complete Order comprises Thirty Three Masonic Degrees, of which only the 18th Degree is worked in full in the Chapters. The first three degrees of UGLE Craft Masonry are accepted as equivalent to the first three degrees of this Order and only the Supreme Council confers the 30th, 31st, 32nd and 33rd Degrees, The remaining (intermediate) Degrees are conferred by name only.

About the Rose Croix

Of the degrees beyond the Craft probably one of the most thoughtful, beautiful and respected is the 18th Degree (or 'Knight of the Pelican and Eagle or Sovereign Prince Rose Croix') of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, normally referred to as the Rose Croix Degree. The Degree is a Christian Degree which is open, by invitation, to any brother who has been a Master Mason for at least one full year and who professes the Trinitarian Christian faith.

The ceremony requires thoughtful consideration and a Christian understanding as it is a mason's self-awareness and Christian faith which are key to his participation – especially as the Order amplifies the teachings of Craft Masonry within a Christian context. Being a progressive Order, it is the aspiration (but not a requirement) of most members to attain the Chair of the Chapter as Most Wise Sovereign. The District of Surrey is ruled by an Inspector General, assisted by the District Recorder and comprises of 17 Rose Croix Chapters. These Chapters are not generally large in number, the emphasis being on members who will maintain the bonds of harmony, enjoyment, friendliness and warmth of the Order. Chapters meet between two and three times a year, mostly during the week, but a few meet on Saturday mornings.

The start time is usually around 17:00 hrs during the week and 10:45 hrs on Saturday mornings. The meetings usually last for approximately 1½ to 2 hours depending on what business is being carried out, and there is always a festive board afterwards to enjoy.

The Ceremony

The first three degrees are deemed to be equivalent to the first three degrees of Craft Masonry. The intermediate degrees from the 4th to the 17th Degree (Knight of the East and West) are conferred on a candidate by name, just before taking the ceremony of the 18th Degree. The ceremony of the 18th Degree, seeks his Perfection and service in the Christian virtues in Faith, Hope and Charity.

It is an immensely thought provoking, impressive and beautiful ceremony which instils a warmth and understanding of brotherly love and of service, on which, of course, the whole Masonic institution is founded.

That this 18th Degree is special is not in any doubt, to those on whom it has been conferred.

Rose Croix, like Freemasonry as a whole, is not a religion, nor is it a substitute for religion, it does, however, serve to point the way and it is this which makes Rose Croix so Masonically important, encompassing all we seek, while assisting us to understand the Trinitarian Christian Faith.



Why participate?

If you have a desire for further advancement in Masonic knowledge, understanding and friendship, the Order of the 'Rose Croix' will not only offer those rewards, but will extend your commitment to the principles of Freemasonry while encouraging your progress and practice in those Christian virtues of Faith, of Hope and of Charity.

If you would like further information or wish to participate, please visit the website:
www.surreyrosecroix.org.uk

ROSE CROIX CHAPTERS IN THE DISTRICT OF SURREY

122	NOEL MONEY	<i>Croydon:</i> 4th Thu Feb, MAY, Oct
156	BETHLEHEM	<i>Croydon:</i> 4th Tue Jan, 1st Thu Apr, 4th Tue SEP
200	LILY OF KASAULI	<i>Surbiton:</i> 4th Fri May, 1st Fri JULY, 1st Fri Sep
236	KYNGGESTONE	<i>Surbiton:</i> 2nd Fri FEB, Nov, 3rd Fri May
268	GUILDFORD	<i>Guildford:</i> 2nd Tue Mar, JUNE, Nov
448	WEST CROYDON	<i>Croydon:</i> 3rd Tue Feb, Apr, SEP
585	ST. PAUL AT STONELEIGH	<i>Surbiton:</i> 4th Fri APRIL, Sep, 3rd Wed in Jan
708	THEODORE OF TARSUS	<i>Nutfield:</i> 3rd Fri Mar, May, OCT
791	ANTIOCH	<i>Sutton:</i> 4th Tue Feb, 1st Thu Apr, NOV
830	WARLINGHAM	<i>Nutfield:</i> 5th Thu when occurring (not Jul & Aug), DEC, 2nd Meeting in the Calendar year
885	SURBITON	<i>Surbiton:</i> 3rd Sat Feb, Jun, NOV
984	ST. GEORGE AT CHERTSEY	<i>Chertsey:</i> 4th Thu Feb, 1st Thu Jun 2nd Thu SEP
996	ARCHBISHOP LAUD	<i>Croydon:</i> 4th Fri Feb, 3rd Thu May, 1st Thu SEP
1081	TABLE FELLOWSHIP	<i>Surbiton:</i> 2nd Fri SEP, 3rd Fri Feb
1088	ROSE OF SURREY	<i>Surbiton:</i> 4th Sat JAN, last Sat Sep
1100	PRIDE OF SURREY	<i>Sutton:</i> 4th Thu May, Jun, OCT
1125	RANULF FLAMBARD	<i>Godalming:</i> 1st Mon Mar, JULY, 4th Mon Nov

The Masonic and Military Order of the Red Cross of Constantine



and the Orders of the Holy Sepulchre and of St John the Evangelist

Surrey Division

The exact date the Order was founded is unclear, but it appears to have been worked in some form or other from around 1770 and was formalised in 1865 when the Grand Imperial Conclave was constituted in London.

The Order consists of five degrees namely 'Knight of the Red Cross of Constantine', 'Knight of the Holy Sepulchre', 'Knight of St. John the Evangelist', Consecration as a Venerable Eusebius and Enthronement as Most Puissant Sovereign.

A candidate is installed in the first of these degrees. It relates to the story of Constantine the Great and his conversion to the Christian faith. On the eve of his battle against the rival Emperor Maxentius outside Rome in 312AD Constantine exalted the Heavens to grant him wisdom and knowledge to succeed in the forthcoming battle. A pillar of light in the form of a cross appeared in the sky, witnessed by his army. Constantine believed this to be a sign from heaven and instructed a cross to be made similar to the one seen in the heavens and ordered that it be carried at the head of his army in battle. Tradition states that a number of his soldiers came forward and confessed their Christian faith. Constantine ordered they wear a cross on the armour and after entering Rome following his victory he founded a conclave of Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine and they became his personal bodyguard. The newly installed knight is lead on a preliminary journey towards perfection and the historical oration as above in greater form is delivered.

The second and third degrees known as the 'Appendant Orders' are taken together at a later meeting. The ceremony of a 'Knight of the Holy Sepulchre' relates to the journey of Constantine's mother, St Helena to the Holy Land in search of the Cross of Christ. She was a devout Christian and was later canonised. With the assistance of the Patriarch of Jerusalem she discovered the Cross of Christ and his tomb. With Constantine's assistance she built a church on the site called the Church of the Holy Sepulchre which stands above a grotto where Christ was buried. This moving ceremony relates the Easter story and the discovery of the vault wherein Christ's body had laid. The candidate is made aware of the theological virtues of Faith, Hope and Charity and ordered to guard and defend the Sepulchre against attack.

The degree of St John the Evangelist has strong links to the Holy Royal Arch. After the death of Constantine the Emperor Julian the Apostate attempted to rebuild the Jewish temple but was killed during battle outside of Jerusalem. He is said to have declared that Christ had won and henceforth we build temples in our hearts.

The Order was well established during the Crusades and only conferred on knights who were engaged in battles against the Saracens in the tenth and eleventh centuries.

The Appendant Orders are considered some of the most beautiful and thought provoking ceremonies in Freemasonry.

In the fourth degree a knight companion is consecrated in his conclave as the Venerable Eusebius, a Christian Bishop and mentor of Constantine, in a ceremony only witnessed by present and past holders of the rank. He serves as Eminent Viceroy in the Conclave, the most senior position next to the Sovereign.

In the fifth degree a Venerable Eusebius is enthroned as Most Puissant Sovereign a successor to Constantine in a ceremony only witnessed by present and past Sovereigns of the Order. Both these degrees include secrets restricted to each and finalise a knight companion's search for perfection.

The Order is open to subscribing Royal Arch Companions who profess a belief in the Holy Trinity. It further extends the allegory around the discovery of the word and offers a further insight into the spiritual teachings of masonry which will appeal to any Royal Arch Companion wishing to extend his knowledge and understanding.

The regalia of a Knight Companion of the Red Cross of Constantine consists of a purple sash (supplied by the conclave) and a breast jewel suspended with a purple ribbon.

Knights having taken their Appendant Orders wear a white sash and an additional breast jewel consisting of a black eagle and Jerusalem Cross suspended from a white ribbon.



For further information please visit the
Divisional Website
www.redcrossofconstantine.co.uk



The Grand Council of the Order of **Royal and Select Masters**

of England and Wales and its Districts and Councils Overseas

District of Surrey

www.royalandselectmasters.co.uk



The Order of Royal and Select Masters, often known as the Cryptic Degrees, is open to those who are both Royal Arch and Mark Master Masons. It consists of four highly dramatic degrees. They form a vital and interesting link covering the 470 years from the death of Hiram Abiff in the Third Degree until the re-discovery of the underground vault by the sojourners preparing the ground for the foundation of the second temple in the Royal Arch. The four degrees are said to complete the 'Circle of Perfection' the journey from Craft to Royal Arch, known as the Solomonic Degrees.

Select Master Degree

The preparations for the building of the Temple having commenced in the Mark Degree, the three Grand Masters arrange for a small number of Select Masons, sworn to secrecy, to construct a secret vault beneath the Holy of Holies and deposit replicas therein. An intruder is detected.



Royal Master Degree

The Temple is nearing its completion and certain Overseers are anxious to receive the Master Word and be honoured with the rank of Royal Master before their employment ceases. Shortly before his death Hiram Abiff explains to one of these Overseers, Adoniram, that with patience and industry he will, in due time, receive it. This discourse is widely regarded as the most beautiful in any Masonic Degree.

Most Excellent Master Degree

Hiram Abif has been slain and after a period of mourning, the holy relics are transferred into the completed temple. King Solomon prepares to dedicate it to the Most High and, to celebrate this joyous occasion, confers the Degree of Most Excellent Master on his most trusted and skillful workmen, amongst whom are those who built the secret vault.

Super Excellent Master Degree

The Temple had stood in all its glory for nearly 400 years but had then fallen to Nebuchadnezzar and his army. The King and his principal citizens were taken into captivity in Babylonia. Zedekiah, Nebuchadnezzar's puppet King, has rebelled against him and fled, leaving the remaining citizens to defend the Temple and pledge their devotion to God. The Israelites make plans for their inevitable fate.

On completion of the first Cryptic Degree of Select Master, a Companion is invested with the jewel of the Order, which consists of a skeleton equilateral triangle of white enamel, surmounted by a gold Imperial Crown suspended from a crimson ribbon.

When he has passed through the remaining three Degrees, he is entitled to wear the triangular apron. The Triangle is of course an emblem of the Deity and holds particular significance for Freemasons and is of white kid with a border of crimson silk edged with gold braid. Officers of private Councils wear crimson collars, from which is suspended a gilt jewel of the emblem of their office.



The District of Surrey consists of nine Councils

The District Grand Recorder : Terry Carpenter e: recorder@royalandselectmasters.co.uk

Chelsea Council No.72

Meets at Surbiton on 1st Friday in April, 2nd Wednesday in Sept, and 1st Monday in Nov.

Surrey Council No.88

Meets at Sutton on 1st Monday in March, 2nd Tuesday in June and 1st Tuesday in September.

Courtenay Council No.133

Meets at Croydon on 1st Tuesday in March, 1st Tuesday in May and 2nd Friday in September.

Warlingham Council No.161

Meets at Redhill on 1st Wednesday in May, 3rd Monday in June and 1st Tuesday in November.

Pride of Surrey Council No.168

Meets at Sutton on 1st Wednesday in January, 1st Friday in March and 1st Monday in September.

Waverley Council No.205

Meets at Godalming on 2nd Friday in March, 1st Tuesday in June and 3rd Wednesday in July.

Chertsey Abbey Council No.254

Meets at Surbiton on 1st Wednesday in Feb, 2nd Wednesday in May and 1st Friday in Oct.

Weyside Council No.277

Meets at Guildford on 2nd Tuesday in April, 3rd Monday in July and 2nd Friday in December.

Weald of Surrey Council (Installed Masters' Council) No.309

Meets at Redhill on 3rd Tuesday in July.

The Allied Masonic Degrees

District Grand Council of Surrey



In 1880, The Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degree was established. This consisted of St Lawrence the Martyr, Knight of Constantinople, Red Cross of Babylon and Grand High Priest. In 1902 the Degrees of Grand Tiler of Solomon, Secret Monitor and 33 Degrees of the Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priest were added. In 1925 Knight Templar Priest degrees were given back to Grand College in Newcastle. In 1931 the degree of the Secret Monitor was returned to the Degree of that name. Whilst colourful regalia represents each degree, members are only required to wear 5 jewels, usually miniature form or single composite jewel.

There are five Degrees that are worked in the Order which is open to all Brethren who are both Mark and Royal Arch Masons and of any faith.



St Lawrence the Martyr: This degree must be taken first and explains how Lawrence gave his life rather than betray his principles; Responsibilities, Integrity and Fortitude are lessons to be learned.

The Jewel: Gridiron in silver suspended from an orange ribbon with royal blue edging.

The other degrees can be taken in any Order of sequence.

Knight of Constantinople: This Degree concerns the relationship between the Emperor Constantine and his subjects. The ceremony is entertaining and amusing but at the end, the candidate is left in no doubt of the importance of the virtue of humility.

The Jewel: Maltese Cross in gold or gilt suspended from a green ribbon on which are 3 poniards in gold or gilt with the point downwards.

Grand Tiler of Solomon: This degree is very dramatic set in the secret vault beneath the Temple. It reflects on the danger of hasty judgement.

The Jewel: Triangle with the apex pointing downwards in black enamel edged with gold or gilt. Inscribed with the Hebrew characters 27 and on the obverse the Ineffable name in Cabalistic Order suspended from a fiery Red Ribbon with a pale grey edging either side of which is a hand holding a dagger with the point downwards and surmounted by 3 crowns, all in gold or gilt.

Red Cross of Babylon: This Degree fills the gap between the Craft and the Holy Royal Arch and deals with Zerubbabel obtaining permission to commence the rebuilding of the Temple. The lesson here is of the supreme importance of Truth.

The Jewel: Consisting of a 7 pointed star on which are two crossed swords which point upwards, in gold or gilt on a green enamel circle suspended from a green ribbon.

Grand High Priest: Many believe that this should be the last Degree taken; the Candidate is anointed, consecrated and set apart to the service of God in the High Priesthood.
This is truly an uplifting ceremony which is rather special.
The Jewel: Consisting of a mitre superimposed on a triangle, apex pointing upwards, in gold or gilt, suspended from a red ribbon.

**The Allied Masonic Degrees are open to brethren who are
Mark Master Masons and Royal Arch Masons and of any faith.**

Councils in Surrey and Meeting Dates

Southern Cross Council, No XIII

Meeting at Guildford and Surbiton

April - 4th Wednesday | September - 3rd Wednesday

Surrey Council, No 64

Meeting at Croydon

February - 3rd Monday | June - 1st Monday | December - 3rd Monday

Kyngstun Council, No 102

Meeting at Surbiton

May - 2nd Tuesday | September - 1st Wednesday

Pride of Surrey Council, No 128

Meeting at Sutton

April - 1st Tuesday | June 1st Friday

Godalming Council, No 185

Meeting at Godalming

January - 2nd Monday | July - 3rd Friday

Runnymede Council, No 191

Meeting at Surbiton

February - 1st Wednesday | May - 2nd Wednesday | October - 1st Friday

Surrey Hills Council, No 208

Meeting at Redhill

April - 3rd Wednesday | November - 2nd Tuesday

Riverside Council, No 212

Meeting at Guildford

February - 3rd Thursday | September - 1st Tuesday

Farnham Council, No 235

Meeting at Farnham

May - 3rd Monday | November - 1st Wednesday

The Order of the Secret Monitor

Provincial Grand Conclave of Surrey



Introduction for Worthy Master Masons

What greater themes could one wish for in any Masonic Order than those of friendship and caring? This is principally what The Order of the Secret Monitor is about. Its ceremonial is based on the Old Testament story of the life long friendship between David and Jonathan.

A Brief History of the Order

An Order of David and Jonathan existed in Holland in the 18th Century but our present Order was brought from America by Dr. I. Zacharie about 1875. Originally the Order, as worked in America, consisted of a single degree which could be conferred on any worthy Master Mason by another brother who had received it himself. Under Zacharie a Grand Council was formed in 1887 and the ritual was extended to the present system of three degrees. Later there followed a problematic period when the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees was empowered to confer the American version of the Degree. The conflict between the two bodies was resolved in 1931 when all rights were transferred to the Grand Council (later Conclave) of the Order of the Secret Monitor.

The Three Degrees of the Order and the Ritual Secret Monitor, Prince and Supreme Ruler

In the First Degree the candidate is "*inducted*" as a Secret Monitor. The ceremony is based on the friendship between David (father of Solomon) and Jonathan (son of Saul, the first King of Israel). David was a great warrior and a servant of the King. Saul, however, soon became jealous of David's brilliance and plotted to kill him. Through his friendship with Jonathan, David was informed of the plot and fled to the hills for safety. In order to keep David informed of developments within the King's court, Jonathan devised a special system of communication which the Degree embraces and develops.

Saul was informed of the association between David and his son and blamed those around him for encouraging it. Saul embarked on a major search for David, slaughtering many who he believed to be involved in his concealment but David triumphed and eventually became the second King of Israel. His friendship with Jonathan remained unbroken until the death of the latter. This is the main theme of the Second Degree in which the candidate is "*admitted*" as a Prince of the Order.

The Third Degree of the Order is unique in English Masonry in that it is also the ceremony of installation, in which the elected brother is installed as Supreme Ruler of his Conclave. As part of the ceremony the newly installed Supreme Ruler also receives his "*commission*" (usually from the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler), which carries the rank of "*Supreme Ruler within the Order*". As installation ceremonies go – this is a long one!

These ceremonies are very moving and it is upon the principles exemplified therein that the system of communicating friendship and caring among the members of the Order is promoted in a practical way.

Structure of the Order

The Order is controlled by the Grand Conclave, with the Grand Supreme Ruler as its head. He has Deputy and other Grand Officers. Under Grand Conclave are a number of Provincial and District Grand Conclaves, each headed by a Provincial/District Grand Supreme Ruler.

Conclaves and Officers

Each private Conclave is headed by a Supreme Ruler, who represents David. The Immediate Past Ruler represents Jonathan. The other principal officers are the Counsellor and Guide. Then come the usual offices of Treasurer, Secretary and DC. Next are four officers who are of key importance in promoting the fundamental principles of the Order – the Visiting Deacons. They are each assigned a portion of the membership and are responsible for communicating with their charges between meetings of the Conclave, to ensure that all is well with them. The other officers are the ADC, Guarder and Sentinel. In the Second Degree the titles of some the officers take on the names of certain Biblical characters involved in the story.

Qualification for Membership

The only qualification is that of being a Master Mason in good standing under the United Grand Lodge of England, or of a body recognised by United Grand Lodge.

Regalia

A newly Inducted brother wears a breast jewel, supplied by the Conclave. On completion of the Second Degree an identical breast jewel is worn but suspended from a different ribbon. A Conclave officer wears a crimson sash in the First Degree and yellow and violet striped sash with a narrow crimson stripe in the Second Degree. A Supreme Ruler wears the jewel of the Order suspended from a collarette, and a sash with the letters SR on it. Once commissioned he also wears a robe of violet with yellow edgings. A Provincial Grand Officer wears a sash of blue embroidered with gold. A Grand Officer wears a sash of crimson embroidered with gold. Both also wear a collarette and jewel.

The Province of Surrey

The Province of the South Eastern Counties was constituted in 1976. From this Province, on 20th May 2006, the Grand Supreme Ruler designated two new Provinces, Surrey and Sussex. The Province of Surrey comprises of seven Conclaves which are based in Sutton, Croydon, Redhill, Surbiton, Godalming and Guildford.

Further information can be obtained from:

The Provincial Grand Recorder

e-mail: recorder@orderofthesecretmonitor.co.uk



THE ANCIENT AND MASONIC ORDER OF THE SCARLET CORD



History and Description of the Order:

Since the consecration of Scarlet Cord Conclave No 500 in London in December 2006 marking the revival of the Order of the Scarlet Cord, its growth has been phenomenal. Many Scarlet Cord Consistories were formed in the British Isles and in other parts of the world in the ensuing years.

Such has been its success that the Order, originally under the Order of the Secret Monitor, became a separate sovereign body in July 2010 with its own constitutions and regulations.

The new Order is known as The Ancient and Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord and was inaugurated on 21st July 2010.



The Province of Surrey, which is known as the Provincial Grand Senatus of Surrey, consists of four Scarlet Cord Consistories.

Surrey Consistory No 4, meeting at Surbiton,
Hill of Zion Consistory No 52 meeting at Croydon,
Guildford Consistory No 53 meeting at Guildford
and Warlingham Consistory No 134 meeting at Nutfield.



Regalia in the Order

The regalia in the Order is minimal. The Badge of the Order is a tasselled Scarlet Cord, initially worn around the waist and in the Third Grade worn as a sash over the right shoulder.



Together with the position of the sash, the status of each member is indicated by the wearing of either a jewel suspended from the neck by a Scarlet Cord, as in the First and Second Grades, or a breast jewel in the Third Grade. There is also a splendid Tie of the Order available which may be worn after joining the Order.

A full description of the Order, its history, structure, provinces & districts and officers, may be found at the

Surrey Provincial website: www.surreyscarletcord.org.uk



The Ritual

The Order was derived from the Order of the Secret Monitor, and it remains very closely associated with it. Only Princes of the Order of the Secret Monitor are eligible to join, and there are three initial Grades in the Order, equivalent to the three degrees in Craft Masonry.

Upon their Induction, Companions initially become Ostiarii or Doorkeepers within the Order, and thenceforth may designate themselves as Companions of the Scarlet Cord.

The Second and Third Grades are also conferred in a Consistory, when the candidates become Lectors and Fellows respectively.

An unusual feature of the Order, is that a Companion may be elevated to a higher Grade in any Consistory, so long as there are 28 days between his respective ceremonies.

Further preferment within the Order is only conferred upon candidates at the invitation of the Grand Summus.

Like most Masonic Orders, the Order of the Scarlet Cord's ceremonies are based upon biblical allegory, centred around incidents found in the Old Testament.

Each inspiring ceremony is derived from a different, and at first an apparently unrelated biblical incident, which are ultimately bound together in an informative and dramatic climax in the Third Grade.

All the ceremonies involve participation by a relatively large number of Consistory members, and whilst there is every opportunity for keen ritualists to shine, there are also many possibilities for less practised Companions to participate in a rewarding and meaningful manner.

Each Consistory is presided over by a President who is elected annually. Uniquely after being elected, the President Elect is then prepared for the Office of President in a Preparation Ceremony, following which he becomes an Eminent Companion. After his Installation, he becomes a Distinguished Companion.

As there are only a very few Consistories in the Province, there is a small, but exclusive membership, which inevitably forms strong bonds of friendship. Visiting is also a strong feature of the Order, and visitors are always very warmly welcomed. Visiting other Provinces is also encouraged, and much reciprocal visiting takes place, thus forming lasting friendships which would not otherwise occur.

The qualifications for a candidate to become a member of the Order are that they are Master Mason and Prince of the Order of the Secret Monitor.

All enquiries to the Provincial Grand Recorder: recorder@surreyscarletcord.org.uk



THE WORSHIPFUL SOCIETY OF FREE MASONS, ROUGH MASONS, WALLERS, SLATERS, PAVIORS, PLAISTERERS AND BRICKLAYERS



THE SOUTH EASTERN COUNTIES REGION

(Covering the Counties of Surrey, Sussex and Kent)

The Worshipful Society of Free Masons, Rough Masons, Wallers, Slaters, Paviors, Plasterers and Bricklayers (more often referred to as "The Operatives") is a Masonic Society which exists to perpetuate a memorial of the practices of operative Free Masons existing prior to modern speculative Freemasonry.

An Overview of the Order

Operative or Guild Masons were organized in England with royal approval dating at least from as early as the Grand Assemblage of 926 in York, which is reputed to have been authorized and encouraged by King Athelstan. As a result of the general decline in Guild masonry, only a few operative lodges were still active in the early 1900s. Fearing that their teachings and ceremonials might eventually become lost, several operative lodges of the York Division decided that positive action should be taken to obviate this possibility. Under the authority of the York Division, the Channel Row Assemblage was reconstituted under the present title at Bedford House, in London, on 21st May 1913. The Worshipful Society of Freemasons is governed by a Grand Assemblage, which is based in London and presided over by three Grand Master Masons.

Qualifications for Membership and Degrees Worked

Membership is restricted to regular freemasons who are Master Masons, Mark Master Masons and Royal Arch Masons in good standing. For promotion beyond the V°, a member must have been installed as a Master in a Craft Lodge and also in a Mark Lodge. The Order does not claim to be the successor to, or connected with any former society of the same, or any like name, nor that the ceremonies represent precisely the practice of stonemasons. However, anyone wishing to learn the craft of stonemasonry in days gone by would do so in two ways: either by watching and practising next to an experienced workman (i.e.'Sitting by Nellie', as it was known), or by entering into a formal apprenticeship deed with a master. This latter method is reflected in our Society today and, in joining, a candidate does not promptly become a 'mason' but is known as an Indentured Apprentice until through time and experience he is able to progress through the seven degrees of the Society, which are:

- I° Indentured Apprentice
- II° Fellow of the Craft
- III° Fitter and Marker
- IV° Setter Erector
- V° Intendent, Overseer, Super Intendent and Warden
- VI° Passed Master
- VII° Master Mason and Grand Master Honoris Causa

Assemblages and Lodges

Assemblage includes the Stone Yard and Lodge of each of the degrees from the First to the Third and also the Erection Site and Lodge of the Fourth degree. Each Assemblage is presided over by a Deputy Master Mason representing the three Grand Master Masons who ipso facto are the masters of every lodge. The Deputy Master Mason has two deputies and all three must be Passed Masters VI°. A V° Lodge is presided over by a Deputy Master Mason and a VI° Lodge by a Senior Passed Master. Each of these presiding officers has two deputies. The VII° Lodge is presided over by the three Grand Master Masons.

Procedures for joining The Worshipful Society and Progress within it

Freemasons having the required qualifications may enquire of any member of the Worshipful Society if interested in becoming a member. Many of those who join have been recommended to the Assemblage by members and have been invited to join after favourable consideration by the members of the Assemblage. All applications for membership are subject to a ballot of the members present in open Assemblage. Meetings of an Assemblage are held quarterly, but additional meetings may be convened in special circumstances. Progress through the degrees and promotions to office are based on merit.

Work within the Assemblages

Although the work carried out within the Assemblages is similar in many respects to that carried out in the Masonic orders of which membership is a prerequisite to becoming a member of the Worshipful Society of Freemasons, nevertheless there are some significant differences. The origins of the various degrees of speculative freemasonry will become evident to candidates in the various operative degrees, although no attempt is made to correlate the several systems. The old charges and explanations are given in their original forms, but much of the work that has already been carried out in the speculative degrees is not repeated.

The Regalia is minimal and consists simply of a blue collar or cord from which is suspended the badge of one's grade. Badges are exchanged as progression is made. Currently there are four Assemblages meeting at the following venues:

Bodiam Castle	East Brighton Masonic Centre, Peacehaven, Sussex
Guildford Castle	Guildford Masonic Centre, Surrey
Market Cross	Chichester Masonic Hall, Sussex
Nonsuch Palace	Sutton Masonic Hall, Surrey

Further information is available from Jeremy Griffin, Regional Clerk

01825 724335 wealdhouse86@btinternet.com



THE HOLY ROYAL ARCH KNIGHT TEMPLAR PRIESTS AND ORDER OF HOLY WISDOM



The History of the Order

The Order has its foundation in Ireland where records exist of workings in the late 18th century. In 1895 The Royal Kent Tabernacle was created at Newcastle-upon-Tyne and, while the Order of Knight Templar Priests was for a time under the jurisdiction of the Grand Council of Allied Masonic Degrees, this Tabernacle continued to confer the Degree. The present Grand College was formed at Newcastle in 1923 and has expanded its influence to Australia, New Zealand, and other Countries of the world.



The Degrees Worked

There are essentially thirty-three Degrees conferred by the Order of Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests.

The first thirty-one of them are conferred by name, the thirty second Degree, that of, being the working Degree, while the Degree of Installed High Priest would be the thirty-third.



The Degrees are:-

- I° Funeral Master
- II° Master of the Blue or Knight of Solomon
- III° Most Excellent Master
- IV° Excellent Mason and Master of the Veils
- V° Sublime Master or Jacob's Wrestle
- VI° Fugitive Mark
- VII° Architect
- VIII° Order of the Scarlet Cord or Knight of Rahab
- IX° Knight of the Three Kings or The Balance
- X° Knight of the North
- XI° Knight of the South
- XII° Knight of Patmos or Philippi
- XIII° Knight of Redemption
- XIV° Knight of Death or Elysium
- XV° Knight of the Holy Grave
- XVI° Knight of the Christian Mark
- XVII° Knight of Bethany

- XVIII° Knight of the Royal Prussian Blue
- XIX° Knight of Eleusis
- XX° Knight of Palestine
- XXI° Knight of St. John the Baptist
- XXII° Knight of the Cross
- XXIII° Knight of the Black Cross
- XXIV° Knight of the White Cross
- XXV° Knight of the White Cross of Torphichen
- XXVI° Knight of the Suspended Cross of Babylon
- XXVII° Knight of the Red Cross of Jerusalem
- XXVIII° Knight of the Red Cross or Rosae Crucis
- XXIX° Knight of the Triple Cross
- XXX° Grand Cross of St. John
- XXXI° Made free from Harodim
- XXXII° Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priest
- XXXIII° Installed High Priest

The ceremony consists in the main of readings from the Old and New Testaments. The Candidate is conducted to seven pillars, placed in the form of a triangle, at each of which is stationed a Pillar Officer. Each pillar has a word referring to the attributes of the Lamb of God who opened the seven seals, revealing the various Spirits of God.



THE ORDER OF HOLY WISDOM



The Officers of a Congregation of the Order of Holy Wisdom comprise the following : - The Most Eminent High Prelate, the Eminent High Priest, 7 Pillar Priests, the Hermeneutes (Secretary,) the Exorcist, (DC/Conductor), the Reader (Orator) the Acolyte (Inner Guard) and the Keeper of the Door. (Tyler). Members of the Order are known as Knight Priests.

The Clothing of the Order is that worn by a Knight Templar Priest, without the Mitre, and with the addition of an ecclesiastic cordelier. That of the High Prelate is purple, that of the High Priest is red, that of the 7th. Pillar is sky blue and those of all other Officers and Members are white.

In the early days it was also known as the Priestly Order and was referred to within the ceremonies of The High Knights Templar in Ireland in 1755.

The Order first saw the light of day in Scotland in 1800 in Kilmarnock and then extended to Glasgow and Edinburgh.

In 1807, the Early Grand Conclave of Scotland issued a warrant to Joppa Encampment of Knights Templar in Sunderland with authority to work a number of degrees including Knight Templar Priest. In 1812 members at Newcastle upon Tyne petitioned the Grand Conclave of England for a Warrant. This was granted in the name of Royal Kent Encampment.

Evidence exists of its being worked in the late 18th and early 19th Centuries in England, Scotland, Ireland, Corfu, France and probably the United States and Canada. The Order then became moribund in the 1890s, the last known working being in Lancashire.

Prior to 1894, The Order of Knight Templar Priest traced its origins back to the Anahilt Union Band in County Down, Ireland, in 1792. Over 60 Union Bands have been traced in Ireland with only a small number being under the Irish Early Grand Encampment and even fewer being banded with one or more Lodges. During this period there was no ruling body.

On Good Friday, 23 March 1894, Henry Hotham, a Yorkshireman and prominent Mason, was apparently the last known Knight Templar Priest. Being the last Installed Master or High Priest, he admitted nine Knights into the Order (under the authority of one of the Original Rules of the Order).

The revived Tabernacle being conscious of the efforts of the Council of Allied Masonic Degrees in London to found a Grand Council of Rites agreed that, with its then 24 Appendant Degrees, to become the Royal Kent Tabernacle Time Immemorial. As a consequence the first of the modern Tabernacles, Royal Kent T.I., was formed. After a short period of control by the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees and, by mutual consent, it separated and became The Grand College.

For further information visit the Surrey KTP web site: www.ktp-surrey.org.uk

THE ROYAL ORDER OF SCOTLAND

South Eastern Counties of England



The Grand Lodge of this Order is based in Edinburgh and the hereditary Grand Master is the Kings of Scots (for whom a Throne is kept vacant at every meeting)

However, as there is no longer such a King, the day to day running of the Order is in the hands of the Deputy Grand Master and Governor,
Sir Archibald Donald Orr-Ewing.

This Order dates back to shortly after the foundation of the English Craft Grand Lodge; internal references in the Ritual indicate that it could not have been operating in 1725, and external evidence shows that it was in operation by 1741 at the very latest.

It predates the other Degrees and Orders beyond the Craft and contains echoes of matters which later emerged as additional Orders in their own right.

It is therefore of considerable historical interest.

There are two degrees in the Order: The Royal Order of Heredom of Kilwinning, and the Knighthood of the Rosy Cross.

Each Brother of the Order is known by a "Characteristic", representative of something connected with him; it might be his profession, his hobbies, his Masonic involvement or something to do with him generally.

This arises from the tradition that the Order was founded by Robert the Bruce immediately after the battle of Bannockburn, when he conferred "Characteristics" upon those who had taken part, based on each one's prowess, performance and actions during the battle.

Membership requirements

This is one of the Christian Orders and members must profess the Trinitarian Christian Faith.

The basic requirement of the Statutes is to have been a Master Mason for a minimum of five years.

However, in the case of South-Eastern Counties, it is understood and expected that candidates will already belong to one of the other Christian Orders: Rose Croix, Knights Templar or Red Cross of Constantine.

Regalia

The Regalia consists of an apron, crimson and green cordons, a breast jewel and a strap (worn on the left arm) bearing the motto of the Order.



Societas Rosicruciana in Anglia

(Rosicrucian Society of Freemasons)

PROVINCE OF SOUTH EAST ENGLAND



The Societas Rosicruciana in Anglia (S.R.I.A.), is an independent Christian Society, whose aim is to afford mutual aid and encouragement in working out the great problems of Life and in discovering the secrets of Nature; to facilitate the study of the system of Philosophy which was inculcated by the original Fratres Rosae Crucis A.D.1450 and to investigate the meaning and symbolism of all that now remains of the wisdom, art and literature of the ancient world.

The Rosicrucian Fraternity is dedicated mainly to the education of spiritual, philosophical and ethical truths of the highest level.

The Society is independent of, and not related to, other Masonic Orders, otherwise than by having its members selected from that Fraternity, who must be Master Masons, and is governed by the Supreme Magus and his High Council, which is convened once a year, at a peripatetic venue.

The Province of South East Counties, is overseen by The Chief Adept assisted by his Suffragan and Provincial Secretary.

No one can be admitted into the Society unless he is a man of high moral character and a Master Mason in good standing in a Lodge under the United Grand Lodge of England or under the jurisdiction of a Grand Lodge recognised by and in amity with, the United Grand Lodge of England and who accept and believe in the fundamental principles of the Trinitarian Christian faith.

All members are encouraged to participate in the well running of their College by regular attendance and hopefully in the production of interesting papers or lectures

There are Three Colleges meeting in the Masonic Province of Surrey

Thomas Linacre College No 24 (Croydon)
4th Mon in FEBRUARY, June and October

Norman Stamford College No 48 (Sutton)
2nd Monday in March, 3rd Tue in June and 2nd Wed in DECEMBER

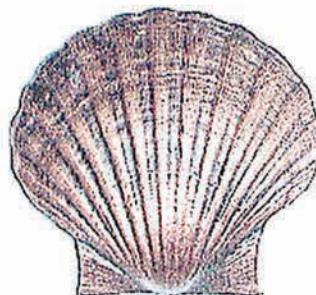
Pilgrim's Way College No 80 (Guildford)
2nd Thu January, 2nd Wed June and 2nd Mon NOVEMBER

Breast Jewels of the Order



For further information please contact the
Provincial Secretary: Graham Hancock
e-mail: grahamhancock36@gmail.com
Telephone: 07828 149374

THE COMMEMORATIVE ORDER OF ST THOMAS OF ACON



That we have a revival of this very English Order of Chivalry is due to the untiring efforts of our first Grand Master, Sir John of Dorking. John spent more than twenty years searching the archives of the Guildhall Library for information about the Order of St Thomas of Acon intending initially to write its history. Happily, he discovered the report of the Installation of the Master in 1510, an account so unusual and so typically English, that he felt compelled to revive the Order, albeit masonically.

In former times, few could read or write so that memories were better developed than ours. Pythagoras forbade all writing, considering it “the destroyer of all memory”; fortunately most people were more tolerant. It was not necessary to record what was to be spoken, nor to give more than headings of the order of events; such clues as have survived require imaginative interpretation. Good stories, on the other hand, (such as those of Becket, father and son), were written down for use as homilies by priests.

The Third Crusade began in 1189 AD, and on the 8th June 1191 King Richard 1 (Richard Coeur de Lion) arrived with his forces, before the seaport of Acre, and captured the city in 5 weeks. Amongst the English force was, William, the Chaplain to the Dean of St Paul’s, who when he saw the corpses of the Christians about the walls of Acre, had compassion on them. With the aid of a few helpers he buried a large number of the dead, and tended the wounded.

Seeing that his actions were being appreciated, William formed an Order for the express purpose of burying Christian Knights who fell in battle in the Holy Land. To this first purpose he added a second, the raising of monies to redeem ransomed captives captured by the Saracens. The Order being formed at Acre its name was incorporated in the title (the Anglicised version of Acre being Acon).

The Order was so successful that William was able to build a church and churchyard that he dedicated to St Thomas á Becket, thus the Order became entitled the Commemorative Order of St Thomas of Acon,

Through disease and death of the other knights fighting in the Holy Land, this Order of English monks was pressed into service as replacements, and became an Order of military monks, fighting alongside the Knights of the Temple, the Knights of the Hospital of St John the Almsgiver, the Knights of the Hospital of Lazarus and the Teutonic Knights of the Hospital of St Mary, (it was also at this time circa 1279 that the Prior lost his pre-eminent position, this being accorded to the Master).

King Richard I rewarded their valour by according them the status of an Order of Chivalry. Of all the five noble Orders of Knights in the Holy Land at this time, only this Order had a purely English foundation – a fact of which we should be justly proud.

Following the battle of Acre, the Order of St Thomas of Acon merged temporarily with the Order of the Temple. When the knights were subsequently driven out of Cyprus, the Chapel of the Order of St Thomas was the only church on the island permitted to ring its bells. Remains of this church can still be visited. In England the Order acquired the property of the Becket family in Cheapside where they built a Chapel and a headquarters.

Old records are sparse, the last admission into the Order being recorded on the 2nd February 1367, but that the order continued is not in doubt as the records of the Installation of a Master in 1510 (mentioned above), demonstrate, also it was listed as one of the Orders dissolved by Henry VIII.

At the dissolution of the monasteries in 1538, he offered the Chapel of the Order for sale, and, in memory of St Thomas (Thomas á Becket being canonised barely two years after his death during the Lenten period in 1173), and in view of the association of his father, Gilbert, with their trade, the Worshipful Company of Mercers purchased it.

The Chapel in Cheapside was destroyed in the Great Fire of London and the present Mercers Hall and Chapel were built on the site. This is a matter of historical record, (lengthy articles have been published in the “Historical Review”, which is available in most public libraries and in several books).

All that remains today to remind us of that building is the recumbent statue of Christ, which lies at the entrance of the new Mercers’ Chapel. Additionally, the Church of St Thomas, in the City of London, was built in honour of St Thomas á Becket, and the Mayor, on the day of his Installation, always attended Mass in that church, before proceeding to St Paul’s.

There are now two Chapels of the Order meeting in Surrey. Nutfield Chapel No. 43, which is part of the Province of South Eastern Counties, meeting at the Redhill Masonic Centre and The Pride of Surrey Chapel No. 93, part of the Province of Greater London, meeting at the Sutton Masonic Centre.

A full description of the Order may be found on the website: www.acon-sec.org.uk

The Masonic Order of Athelstan in England, Wales and its Provinces Overseas



The Provincial Grand Court of Sussex

www.athelstansussex.org.uk

This Masonic Order is a tribute to the spirit of King Athelstan
- the first king of all of the English.

He was the son of Edward the Elder and grandson of Alfred the Great.

He was crowned king at Cyningstun (Kingston-upon-Thames) in AD 925
and the Coronation Stone upon which he was crowned may still be seen today
located near to All Saints Church in Kingston.

He reigned from AD 925 and died at Gloucester in AD 939.

He is buried at Malmesbury Abbey.

The Masonic Order of Athelstan was founded in England in 2005 and grew out of the shared interests that a number of like-minded individuals had in the origins of Freemasonry whose research focused specifically on the Saxon Chronicles. The Order portrays the story of a Master Mason called to the legendary Grand Assembly at York in AD 926 to receive the Ancient Charges. The delightful ritual explains a lot of the symbolism we still see in some Lodges today and culminates with an historical oration taking us through the development of the various Grand Lodges, and ends at 1813 with the formation of the United Grand Lodge of England.

This ritual is based on the research of many old historic Masonic documents and the draft of the ritual was produced based upon the life and symbolism of King Athelstan.

Individual units in the Order are known as Courts
– and there are currently 145 Courts in England, Wales and Overseas.

There are currently 10 Courts in the Province of Sussex whose geographical boundary includes Hampshire & Isle of Wight, South Middlesex, Surrey, Sussex and The Channel Islands.

Venues for the courts within the Province are Chichester, Croydon, Ferring, Guildford, Herstmonceux, Redhill (Nutfield), Sutton, Ryde on the Isle of Wight, Twickenham and Winchester.

The latest Court was founded at Cole Court Masonic Centre in Twickenham in February 2018.

Membership within the Province is presently 230.

The Masonic Order of Athelstan is an invitational Order and it is a mandatory requirement that every Member or Candidate must be a subscribing and active member of both a Craft Lodge and a Royal Arch Chapter.

See the Provincial website for more information.



An Apron of a Court Master Mason



OTHER MASONIC ORDERS IN SURREY



Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark
Master Masons of Surrey



Provincial Priory of Surrey
Knights Templar &
Knights of Malta



The Ancient and Accepted Rite
District of Surrey



Red Cross of Constantine
Division of Surrey



Royal and Select Masters
District of Surrey



Allied Masonic Degrees
District of Surrey



Order of the Secret Monitor
Provincial Grand Conclave
of Surrey



The Masonic Order of the Scarlet
Cord Provincial Grand Senatus
of Surrey



The Worshipful Society of
Operative Freemasons
The South Eastern Counties



The Holy Royal Arch Knight
Templar Priests
District of Surrey



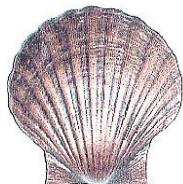
The Order of Holy Wisdom
District of Surrey



The Royal Order of Scotland
Province of the
South Eastern Counties



Societas Rosicruciana in Anglia
Province of the South Eastern
Counties



St Thomas of Acon
Province of London and
The South Eastern Counties



The Masonic Order of Athelstan
Province of Sussex

