



Another Busy Meeting at Surrey Council

In June the Deputy District Grand Prefect W.Bro. Bob Tuthill, P.G.St.B., was pleased to enter a Temple containing a goodly number of Allied Masons.



The first ceremony was the Installation of W.Bro. Barry Thomas as Master. W.Bro. Mike Neville performed the ceremony with several props to add fun and explanation to the ritual.



The Deputy also noted the excellent work of newer members, including Bro Tony Rastall as Senior Deacon. The meeting concluded with a fun and friendly Festive Board.

The next meeting will be held on 18th December.

Article by Bob Tuthill

The new Master quickly appointed his officers, so that the Council could proceed to welcome another new member, Bro. John Rollason, an active member of the Mark Province of Surrey.

W.Bro. Steve Jones took the chair and conferred the Degree of St Lawrence the Martyr, with W.Bro. Mike giving an illustrated version of the lecture showing historical sites in Rome.



A Day at the Seaside



The 2023 Annual Meeting of the District Grand Council of Essex in the Allied Masonic Degrees took place on Saturday the 13th of May at the Southend Masonic Centre, Saxon Hall, in Southend-on-Sea. An excellent venue with a beautiful Temple.



We had a uneventful journey round the M25 and A13 and arrived in plenty of time for coffee and bacon rolls.



There were honoured guests from many Districts, see here with the District Grand Prefect for Essex, R.W.Bro. Jeffrey Lionel Conway. There were also representatives from other Masonic Orders in Essex.

By 10.45 the Brethren were seated in the Temple to receive the Right Worshipful Brethren, and the Past District Grand Prefect, R.W.Bro. Ray Clare.

The meeting was called to order by the District Grand Director of Ceremonies, to receive the District Officers of the year. The District Grand Prefect, R.W.Bro. Jeffrey Conway, led by the District Grand Sword Bearer, and followed by the District Grand Standard Bearer entered in procession.

District Grand Council was opened in due form by the District Grand Prefect, who was saluted with seven under the direction of the District Grand Director of Ceremonies.

The District Grand Prefect individually welcomed the many representatives of other Districts and Masonic Orders, thanking them for their support for Essex District Grand Council.



After the regular business of District Grand Council had been completed, he announced the re-appointment of W.Bro. Tony Edwards, **P.G.S.D.**, as Deputy District Grand Prefect thanking him for his support over the past year.



After appointing or promoting the Officers of District Grand Council for the ensuing year the District Grand Prefect addressed District Grand Council. In his Address he said he wanted to thank all those who have worked like Trojans to prepare and run this meeting, and who helped to make it a success. He said it was an honour to be the head of this Order and reminded everyone of the importance of the Mark Degree.

The meeting was then called to order and closed in due form. The District Grand Prefect, the Deputy District Grand Prefect, together with members of the Past Executive, honoured guests and Provincial Officers then left the Temple in procession.



In replying to his Toast, the District Grand Prefect thanked everyone for attending, and proposed the toast to the visiting Brethren,

After a most enjoyable meal we all made our way home to our Districts. Fortunately, the traffic was not too bad considering the rail strike....

The Surrey District team gathered for a group photo.

The Brethren of the District of Essex and their guests then retired to the bar.

After refreshments the Brethren of the District of Essex and their guests sat down to a most convivial meal at the Saxon Hall.



Worshipful Master is the Pride of Surrey

A delightful meeting at the Pride of Surrey Council No.128 in Sutton with both the District Grand Prefect, R.W.Bro. John French, and his Deputy, W.Bro. Bob Tuthill, in attendance to witness an excellent display of ritual by the Worshipful Master W.Bro. Barry Northmore.

Not only did Barry perform a near faultless ceremony of Introducing the Candidate William Engall into the Degree of St Lawrence the Martyr, he undertook the lecture of the degree as well perfectly.



Next it was the turn of the Master Elect, W.Bro. Chris Hatton, who was Inducted into the chair of the Council in an equally impressive manner by Barry.



The new Worshipful Master, not to be outdone, invested his Officers and completed the work in the Temple with great experience and aplomb.

Certainly, the watchwords of Fortitude and Hospitality sum up the great strides that are being made in the progression of Pride of Surrey Council.

The whole meeting and festive board were an extremely happy affair with everybody dining afterwards to a reasonably priced and generous meal of fish and chips at the centre.

This is undoubtedly a Council that lives up to its name.

Article by Bob Tuthill