



Provincial Grand Chapter and Lodge Yorkshire North and East Ridings



Weekly Newsletter

Brethren, Companions,

The Provincial Executive has suggested the Communications PMG might keep you all up to speed on what is happening around the Province.

There are any number of initiatives being pursued in Lodges and Chapters which are filling the gap which the absence of our regular meetings has left.

This first instalment will hopefully grow in the coming weeks when you let myself, Karl or Alan have details of what you are up to in your neck of the woods. It doesn't have to be Masonic. It might be that in your current Covid 19 confinement that you have decided to resurrect an old hobby, take up a new one, developing plans to tunnel out, the list is endless!

Amusing anecdotes are welcome but the same rules as at festive boards will apply i.e. nothing risqué or which might cause offence. Don't forget that our partners are increasingly involved in our Masonic activities and might want to contribute to the newsletter. They may well take up the cudgel and show how brethren have taken to domestic tasks. We might conceivably have to include photographs of a members first acquaintance with an iron (no not a 'golf' iron!) or exploring those white goods in the kitchen which have thus far been beyond his comprehension! How about your favourite recipe utilising what is of course likely to be in people's cupboards but please avoid references involving tripe or spam?

The idea behind the newsletter is to make sure that you keep in touch and firing on all cylinders over the coming weeks.

Here is the first edition with some cogent advice on that age-old Masonic question of *do we wear gloves or don't we?* There are also some photos from the past to test your memory. Were you there, if not do you recognise where it was and those who were there? And a short quiz to expand your Masonic knowledge.

Keep safe

Chris Thomas
Communications PMG

REMEMBER THIS NEWSLETTER WILL ONLY BE AS GOOD AS THE ITEMS SUBMITTED

If you have an anecdote or item of interest email it to:

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Karl Ward: karlward69@btinternet.com
Alan Jarman: alan.jarman@me.com



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Newsletter – Edition 1

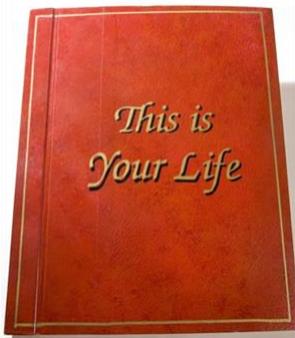
Gloves or No Gloves

Do we wear gloves or don't we? An age-old Masonic question but, in respect of the current pandemic, the answer is 'No' and with good reason as explained by Nick Mitchell of the York Area Communications Team. Nick is an Associate Practitioner (Nursing). Wearing gloves acts as a barrier to carrying out the all-important hand hygiene routine we are all encouraged to now adopt. Covid-19 will adhere to the gloves. Gloves will give you a false sense of security and Removing the gloves leaves others vulnerable to their content. Just stick to the advice you have been given, hand washing, keep your distance and help us all get through this.



This is Your Life

Another idea to get you thinking and keeping in contact. How many of you have been to a long service presentation in your Lodge or Chapter? For those of you who haven't there is a treat in store when we get back to normal. For those of you who have, how many times have you said afterwards "well I never knew that about Fred"? Well now might be the time to get to know your Brethren and Companions better and well in advance of their long service award!

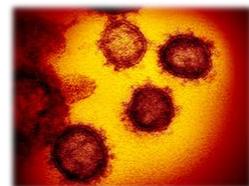


Philip Harrison from Filey has kick started an idea in his own Lodges and Chapter. Brethren send him 200 words about themselves, or a personal experience which would be of interest. He will circulate these to members as another way of keeping us all from climbing up the wall.

Is this something that you might start up in your own Lodge and Chapter? All it needs is an enterprising Bother or Companion who will act as the middleman and, by the time normal Masonic service is resumed, you will know more about your Brethren and Companions than you ever knew before.

Covid -19 – Expert advice.

Our very own ProvGReg (Chapter), Hiten Thacker is an Infectious Diseases Consultant at Castle Hill Hospital in Hull. If you would like to ask a question in confidence to someone on the front line, and receive a trusted answer, he is offering to help. Please use our unique Provincial email address: - Covid19@pgl-york.org.uk Please do not overload Hiten, a few moments of internet search may reveal the answer. The NHS Covid 19 advice page can be found at: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/> Pictured is the Covid 19 virus captured with a transmission electron microscope.



From the mouths of babes.....

A comment from Pam Durham the wife of David Durham of St John of Bridlington Lodge:

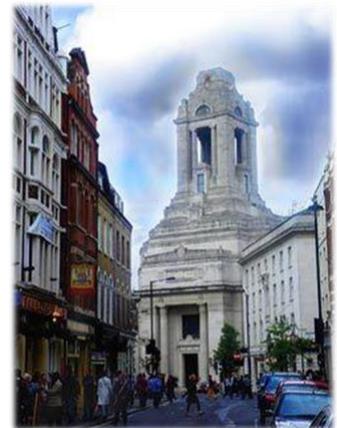
'Even if lodges are closed there are still some people who go to "lodge". Our youngest grandson Edward packs his case with toys and goes up the stairs saying, "Off to lodge might be late see you later". He does make us chuckle.'

Now where does he get that idea from? No doubt young Edward can also set up television remotes as well! More please of these anecdotes. They are needed to make sure we keep our sanity!

The Empty Building

As many of our buildings will be closed and unattended for some time it is perhaps worth considering a close down and management regime. Below are some suggestions (not exhaustive) being implemented:

- Building security - where possible and in safety a weekly walk through to check on security and building safety (in the event of an incident an insurance company may expect this).
- Fridges - these often contains perishables (cheese, butter pats) suggest this be cleared, and the fridge switched off.
- Bar - drinks coolers can be switched off if not already done. Some soft drinks may have a sell-by date which may expire before during closure. These could be distributed to vulnerable members/community groups.
- Water Heaters - make sure they are switched off.
- Isolate - unnecessary water resources
- Heating -reduce to the minimum required



Supporting our Members

From anecdotal evidence Lodges and Chapters are actively engaging in support for their members. Scarborough based Old Globe Lodge No 200 is already producing a members weekly newsletter. It includes a list of members birthdays and other members are encouraged to ring the identified birthday member to wish them a 'Happy Birthday' on the relevant day. There is a lot more going on out there so let us know and share with others.

Jack Sharpe of Invictus Lodge No. 9960 has set up a buddy system where a group of number of brethren will on a weekly ring ALL members of the Lodge allocated to them, to ensure that they are well if they require assistance. Not only will this keep all in contact with the Lodge, but it will ensure that any brother in need will be quickly identified.

Just for fun.....

An opportunity to improve your Masonic knowledge:



1. When was the first or Premier Grand Lodge formed?
2. Where was its first meeting (and the locations original name)?
3. Who was the first Grand Master of the Premier Grand Lodge?
4. In which year was our current Grand Master HRH Duke of Kent installed?
5. What position does his brother hold in Freemasonry?
6. Aprons of Acting Grand Lodge Officers differ from Past Grand Officers, how?
7. In which year were Grand Stewards first appointed?

8. What is the number of the Grand Stewards Lodge?
9. In which year was the Grand Lodge of the Antients formed?
10. What is another name for the Antient Grand Lodge?

Answers in the next edition



Photographic Identification

The below photographs show a series of historic Masonic events. Can you identify the event, location and members present?



Picture 1



Picture 2

Answers in the next edition

And finally.....(and a reminder)



The next edition of the Yorkshire Mason is due for publication in July with last submissions by 30 May. Please get articles submitted of your Lodge /Chapter activities with supporting photographs. Plenty to report on, what did you do to support your members and community during the Covid 19 pandemic – should be enough there for a bumper edition. Submissions to the editor:

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