



The Installation Meeting of Southern Cross Council

In September the Brethren of Southern Cross Council No XIII held their Installation meeting at the South West Surrey Masonic Centre, Guildford. Present at the meeting was our District Grand Prefect, RW.Bro. John French and many other Heads of Surrey Orders.

A Degree of St. Lawrence the Martyr was opened by the Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Chris Eley. The brethren observed a silent tribute for the passing of Queen Elizabeth II, as well as our Past Grand Master, MW Bro Timothy John Lewis and our much-loved member, W Bro Peter Ernst Ribí. The WM welcomed all present and particularly our District Grand Prefect, the Past District Grand Prefect, the District Grand Prefect for Southern Counties, and VW Bro Laurie Brookes.

After taking the minutes the Worshipful Master invited our District Grand Prefect to present a Grand Council Certificate to Bro. Richard Wileman, which was done in a very informative manner.

The Council then voted on a proposition to welcome as a re-joining member, V.W.Bro. Laurence Brooks, **P.G.Reg.**, and as a joining member, R.W.Bro. Michael Whelan, District Grand Prefect, Southern Counties. This was carried unanimously. The Worshipful Master welcomed them into the Council and our District Grand Prefect welcomed them into the District.

After the accounts were presented and confirmed, the outgoing Master, W Bro Chris Eley, expressed his pleasure at the honour of having served as Master during the past year.



The Master Elect, Bro. Denis Dixon Leigh, was presented to the installing Master, W.Bro. Chris Eley, and answered in the affirmative the questions put to him. Brethren below the rank of Installed Master in this degree retired and a Board of Installed Masters was opened. Bro. Leigh was then duly obligated, invested, entrusted, installed and saluted.

W.Bro. Leigh expressed his appreciation at the excellent ceremony and looked forward to a happy and successful term of office. He said that he felt very honoured to be among so many "luminaries". He then appointed and invested his Officers.

W Bro Richard Baker was then invited to invest the Worshipful Master with a splendid Worshipful Master's collarette he had acquired for the Council and had presented to W.Bro. Chris a year previously.

After the regular business of the Council was concluded and the customary photographs taken the Brethren of Southern Cross Council and their guests went into the bar for refreshments before sitting down to a very convivial lunch at the Guildford Masonic Hall.





Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees



On Tuesday, 25 October, Brethren from across the Constitution, and further afield, converged on Freemasons Hall, London, for the annual meeting of the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees.

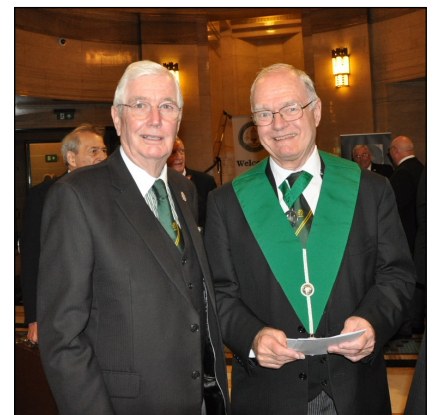


Despite the best efforts of the western mainline railway's engineering department, there was a good turnout of Brethren who had managed to find a decent route into London and the familiar fraternal conviviality of the A.M.D. was in abundance as Brethren met and mingled before the meeting commenced.

The meeting saw two key changes of active Grand Officers. First was the Grand Master's complimentary farewell to his long-serving Deputy, R.W.Bro. Clive Robert Manuel, who has served the Office since 2013

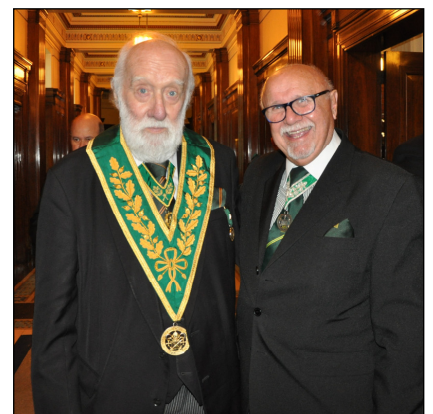
In proposing the re-election of M.W.Bro. Thomas Firth Jackson as Grand Master, Clive described his decision to stand down as being a difficult one but, after so many years in the job, he thought it only fair that someone else should experience the tremendous enjoyment that is a privilege of the role.

That someone is R.W.Bro. Ian Anthony Bailey, P.Dist.G.Pref. for Thames Valley. Ian relinquished the Office of District Grand Prefect only recently, as was reported in last week's Freemasonry@86 and is now looking forward to this new Office and working with the Grand Master and the team of Grand Officers who were about to be appointed.



Another well-known Brother standing down from active office after many years service was R.W.Bro. C. David Davis, P.G.J.W., who has held the Rank of Grand Director of Ceremonies since 2015.

Though never deficient in ceremonial expertise and efficiency, there was something particularly special in the way David delivered the Grand Master's Proclamation for this last time, before discreetly slipping off his chain, and on his collar, ready for his successor, V.W.Bro. Glyn Goddard, to be appointed and invested.





Having taken up his wand, Glyn directed the rest of the proceedings, which saw the appointment and investiture of the other active Grand Officers, and recipients of promotion in, and appointment to, Grand Rank.

Congratulations to the Surrey Brethren who received Grand Honours

Appointed to Grand Standard Bearer was Bob Hancock; and to Grand Steward was Ian Clark. Congratulations also to Mike Neville on his Promotion to P.G.J.D.; and Ray Beadle on his First Appointment to P.G.St.B.

Several of us were there to support our Brethren, including our District Grand Prefect, and our Deputy District Grand Prefect, who was on photographic duties.



These were followed by the closing remarks by the Grand Master who again paid tribute to his departing Officers, including the outgoing Grand Senior and Grand Junior Wardens, R.W.Bro. Stewart Middleton and R.W.Bro. Keith Young.

The Grand Master was pleased to welcome representatives from the Sovereign Grand Councils of the U.S.A., France, India, and South East Asia.



Wishing all the brethren well, he then instructed those present to go to get some much-needed refreshment, before presiding over the closing of Grand Council.

At dinner, wine was taken, and Toasts were proposed and responded to, before many made what was to be a long and circuitous journey home. Thank you to all those who were able to attend and make this another very enjoyable meeting of A.M.D. Grand Council.



Photos by Chris and Bob

The Grand Tilers of Farnham

On the 2nd of November the Brethren of Farnham Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees met to admit four Brethren to the Degree of Grand Tilers of Solomon.



A Lodge of St Lawrence the Martyr was opened by the Worshipful Master, W.Bro. George Deacon who welcomed all the visitors, especially the Deputy District Grand Prefect, W.Bro. Bob Tuthill,



A Lodge of St Lawrence the Martyr was adjourned, and a Lodge of Grand Tilers of Solomon was opened.

The Candidates were admitted to the Degree of Grand Tilers of Solomon by the Worshipful Master and his Officers.



The Deputy District Grand Master congratulated the candidates on taking another of their Degrees, as well as the Council for the way they conducted the ceremony.



The Lodge was then closed, and the Brethren of Farnham Council and their guests sat down to a most enjoyable meal at the Farnham Masonic Hall.