



## The 2023 Hog Roast

An invitation is extended from the District Grand Prefect to attend the annual District Hog Roast on Sunday 9th July 2023 (Midday for 1pm) - Please support this extravaganza and in doing so meet members of this and other Districts and enjoy a convivial luncheon in each other's company; it is open to all members of our District, partners, family and friends (including children and non-masons).

This high class event includes complimentary drinks on arrival and an extensive range of food laid out buffet style. It is our usual custom to hold a raffle (*if you can bring a prize please*).

Delight in the pleasant surroundings of the Guildford Masonic Centre, Weybourne House, Hitherbury Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 4DR.

Please complete the booking form available from the web site [The 2023 Hog Roast \(alliedmasonicdegrees.co.uk\)](http://The 2023 Hog Roast (alliedmasonicdegrees.co.uk)) returning it to Kevin Brennan ASAP to his home address: 26 The Street, Tongham, Farnham, Surrey GU10 1DH (*including a cheque*).

Alternatively you can pay by direct bank transfer - details are on the booking form.

**Tickets cost just £25.00 per person.**

### Sunny Southern Counties

Sunny Saturday the 4<sup>th</sup> of February meant a visit to Botley, our Southern Counties neighbours, for their Annual District Meeting.



The District Grand Prefect, R.W.Bro Michael Whelan, presided over an excellent meeting of the 9 Councils represented and appointed his officers for the year. Both our District Grand Prefect, R.W.Bro. John French, and his Deputy, W.Bro. Bob Tuthill, were warmly welcomed and, as John was the Senior District Grand Prefect present, he responded for the visitors.

Also present at the meeting was our Junior Warden, W.Bro. Derek Williamson, our Director of Ceremonies, W.Bro. Anton Smith, who received a promotion to Past District Grand Junior Warden (*Southern Counties*) at this meeting and V.W.Bro. Brian Howlett, who of course is a Past Deputy District Grand Prefect of Southern Counties.

Another senior Mason present was M.W.Bro. John Prizeman the Pro Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons who warmly congratulated John French on his forthcoming Installation as the Provincial Grand Master for the Mark Province of Surrey, and he told John how much he was looking forward to conducting the ceremony.

Afterwards we all enjoyed a fine festive board and, as the meeting was close to Burns Night, we all enjoyed a starter of Haggis followed by traditional Roast Beef and all the trimmings.

A most enjoyable day was had by all those attending.







## A busy day for the Companion Orders in Surrey

Runnymede AMD Council and Chertsey Abbey RSM Councils meet on the same day at Surbiton. This has proved to be a successful combination where candidates can join two Orders on the same day. The February meetings were going to be very busy with the Degree of St Lawrence the Martyr followed by the Degree of Knights of Constantinople in Runnymede Council No 191 followed by the Degree of Select Master and the Degree of Royal Master in Chertsey Abbey Council No 254.



Present at both meetings were R.W.Bro. John French, District Grand Prefect of the District of Surrey in the Allied Masonic Degrees, and R.III.Comp. David Blackburn, District Grand Master of the Royal and Select Masters District of Surrey.

Runnymede AMD Council was opened by the Worshipful Master, W.Bro. Emmanuel Ogunseye-Babajide, who welcomed all the visitors, especially the District Grand Prefect, R.W.Bro. John French, who was saluted with seven under the direction of the Director of Ceremonies.



The next item on the agenda was to introduce, receive and admit to the Degree of St Lawrence the Martyr, Bros. Andy Croci and Edward Henson. This was conducted by the Worshipful Master assisted by his Officers.

After the ceremony, Brothers Andy and Edward were congratulated by the District Grand Prefect and welcomed into the Order, and the District of Surrey.

R.W.Bro. John gave them information on the Order, as well as the special Surrey AMD napkins to be worn at Surrey Mark festive boards to promote the Order.

The Lodge of St Lawrence the Martyr was adjourned, a Council of Knights of Constantinople was opened, and The Worshipful Master invited W.Bro. Leslie Grout to conduct the ceremony of the Degree of Knights of Constantinople.





Brothers Graham Ellis, Andy Fox, Andy Croci, and Edward Henson were admitted to the Degree of Knights of Constantinople in an excellent manner by W.Bro. Leslie Grout.



Afterwards the four Brethren were congratulated by the District Grand Prefect who explained the other three Degrees that they will be taking at later meetings.

To end a very successful AMD meeting the District Grand Prefect was invited to present a Grand Council Certificate to Brother Bernie Greenwood, which he did in his own special style.



The Council was closed, and after photographs the Temple was rearranged for the meeting of Chertsey Abbey RSM Council. The Council was opened by the Thrice Illustrious Master, W.Bro. Martin Dunham, who welcomed all the visitors, especially the District Grand Master, R.Ill.Comp. David Blackburn, who was saluted with seven under the direction of the Director of Ceremonies. The main items on the agenda were to Choose as Select Masters, Bro. Andy Croci and Edward Henson; and then Receive as Royal Masters, Companions Graham Ellis and Andy Fox





# District Grand Council of the West Midlands

It was a very early start for the District Grand Prefect R.W.Bro. John French and his Deputy, W.Bro. Bob Tuthill, on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> of January to attend the Annual District Grand Meeting of the West Midlands at Burton-on-Trent.



It was a most enjoyable first meeting for R.W.Bro. McCollum since his Installation as the District Grand Prefect for the West Midlands, and he oversaw the proceedings with great confidence.



He welcomed all the guests most warmly, especially R.W.Bro Peter Brockbank who was attending his penultimate meeting as the District Grand Prefect for Kent, and Joe McCollum wished him a very Happy Retirement and thanked him for attending most of the District Grand Meetings since he had become the District Grand Prefect for Kent some 10 years previous. The only positive result is that now the Masonic Centres across the country will be able to maintain their stocks of Guinness.

He also congratulated R.W.Bro. John French for his forthcoming appointment in March as the Provincial Grand Master for the Mark Province of Surrey and wished him every success with the additional work of being both the Provincial Grand Master and a District Grand Prefect for Surrey.



Also present at the meeting was Joe McCollum's predecessor R.W.Bro Clifford Bull; the Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England R.W.Bro. Frank Spencer; and M.Wy.Bro. Andrew Sweeney, the Grand Supreme Ruler of the Order of the Secret Monitor. An excellent meeting was followed by a most enjoyable festive board.



**On Saturday 21 of January, Bond of Friendship Mark Lodge advanced its newest member, W.Bro. Wayne Tibbs of Burstow Lodge.**

Wayne is an experienced Mason and is the Chairman of The Friends of James Terry Court Committee. They had an enjoyable festive board after with plenty of laughter and friendly banter and, as you can see from the photo, the Allied members were faithfully wearing their AMD napkins.

Let's see how long it takes for Mike Neville to persuade Brother Wayne to join the Allied Masonic Degrees.....