



# Royal Arch Reps Newsletter #4

April 2019

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Provincial Information and Communication Officer

## Provincial Grand Chapter

### When is the Annual Convocation?

The Annual Provincial Convocation is taking place at 1100hrs on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at Melksham.

### Who can attend?

All Companions are welcome to attend and it would be good to see a strong representation from all Chapters within the Province.

### What is deadline for dining?

If you want to attend and dine make sure you return the reply slip enclosed with the summons by 07 April 2019.

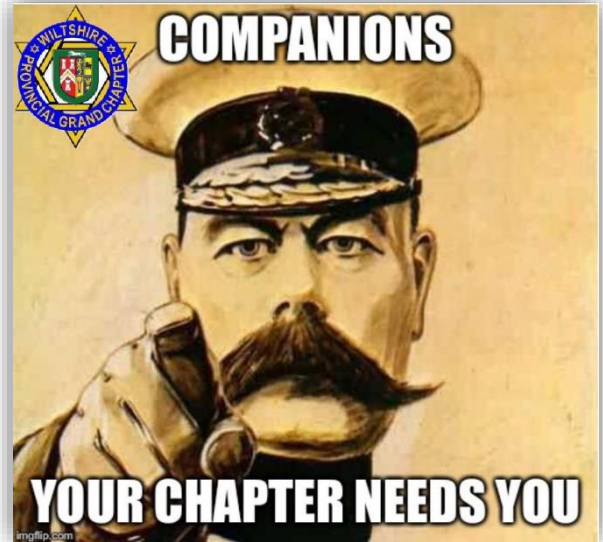
### I would like to attend but don't want to dine; is that OK?

Of course it is, there are plenty of seats available. It would be helpful to let people know by sending the return, but marking it as non-dining by 07 April 2019.

### Where can I get a summons?

The summons should have been sent to you by your Chapter Scribe E. If you haven't seen one just ask them to send you another.

Remember as a Companion of the Holy Royal Arch this is your annual meeting – come along and support. You will be made to feel welcome and it would be great to see you.



## Companions not Brothers?

The word Companion originally came from a military background and referred to Soldiers who shared bread together, from the Latin words 'cum' and 'panis', meaning 'with bread'; messmates. Your Companions were the men with whom you ate in the barracks and with whom you fought in the field. They were the men whom you defended in battle and who defended you; the men on whom your life might depend, and they in turn on you. Your relationship is closer than friendship, closer than that of a Brother.

Relationships made in battle are hard to forget. In the Royal Arch our relationship is closer to the Almighty than that of the Craft and therefore our relationship to each other is a closer one. The term Brother is not enough in the Royal Arch, we need something more, and we have it in the relationship of a Companion. We should be proud of this bond, this relationship, to call each other Companion.

From: <http://solomon.ugle.org.uk>



## Dates for the Diary

### Installation Convocations in Red

|                        |  |                                     |
|------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Tue 2 Apr 2019         | Stonehenge Chapter 6114                    | Salisbury                           |
| Mon 8 Apr 2019         | Wiltshire Chapter of Agriculture 9090      | Corsham                             |
| Tue 9 Apr 2019         | Methuen Chapter 1533                       | Marlborough                         |
| Wed 10 Apr 2019        | Wiltshire Chapter 355                      | Swindon                             |
| Thu 11 Apr 2019        | Border Chapter 3129                        | Ludgershall                         |
| Mon 22 Apr 2019        | Chapter of Concord 632                     | Trowbridge                          |
| Thu 25 Apr 2019        | Thynne Chapter 1478                        | Warminster                          |
| Thu 2 May 2019         | Gooch Chapter 1295                         | Swindon                             |
| Tue 7 May 2019         | St Aldhelm Chapter 2888                    | Malmesbury                          |
| Fri 10 May 2019        | Chapter of Harmony 663                     | Devizes                             |
| <b>Sat 11 May 2019</b> | <b>Provincial Convocation</b>              | <b>Melksham</b>                     |
| Wed 15 May 2019        | Chapter of Friendship & Unity 1271         | Bradford on Avon                    |
| Thu 6 Jun 2019         | St Edmund Chapter 4714                     | Calne                               |
| Fri 7 Jun 2019         | Highworth Chapter 9009                     | Swindon                             |
| Thu 13 June 2019       | Border Chapter 3129                        | Ludgershall (inc Travelling Quaich) |
| Fri 14 Jun 2019        | Wiltshire Chapter of First Principals 6731 | Marlborough                         |

Your Scribe E will receive a summons for each of the meetings above. If you would like to visit any of the Chapters just follow the instructions on the summons for booking in and dining. You can guarantee you will be made to feel welcome and have a great time, and there is bound to be someone you know!

### Share Your News!



We want to share what is happening in the Royal Arch throughout the Province and you have a key role to play in helping us do that.

- Let us know about what is happening in your Chapter or with your members.
- Take a photograph of your new Exalteé or of an event in your Chapter
- Tell us about any significant milestones or events

You can email (using the contact details above) or Tweet your news to @PGCWiltshire. We will pick it up and share it. If we need more information we will contact you and even help you prepare it for the website.

## Provincial Officers Lunch

The Masonic Hall at Calne was busy on Sunday 17 March as members of the Provincial Grand Chapter gathered with partners and friends to celebrate the year. The Most Excellent Grand Superintendent E. Comp John Reid thanked everyone for the support he had received over the last twelve months and looked forward to the annual Provincial Convocation on 11 May in Melksham.

After a delicious lunch, the Grand Superintendent invited Companion Ian Lever to address those present regarding the work of the Masonic Salmon & Trout Fishing Charity and their activities in Wiltshire. Ian outlined the work of the charity from its establishment in 1998 and the impact it has had on the young people and vulnerable adults it works with.

Young people and vulnerable adults with a disability, additional needs or from a disadvantaged background spend the day fishing and are supported throughout the day on a one to one basis by a volunteer. At the end of the day all the participants receive certificates, medals and a goody bag to celebrate their achievements.

The day allows those taking part to build confidence, communicate and enjoy themselves in a safe environment. Every penny donated is spent on the participants. The charity has been active in Wiltshire since 2016 and has organised four events at South Cerney through the support of both Masonic and non-Masonic volunteers. There are two events planned for 2019.

At the end of the presentation Companion Ian was presented with a cheque for £500 by the Grand Superintendent. Ian thanked the Companions present and explained how the donation would allow the charity to continue planning events for the next two years.

## Lansdowne Chapter of Unity No. 622

On Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March, the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent, Excellent Companion John Reid and the Officers of Provincial Grand Chapter were invited to conduct a ceremony of Exaltation at the Lansdowne Chapter of Unity No. 626 meeting in Chippenham. The evening was summed up by a member of the Chapter with the following words:

“What an absolutely cracking evening. The Provincial team put on a great display in delivering the Exaltation of Comp Ian. The work was divided up amongst the team and showed it off to great effect. Something to aspire to without doubt.”

