



Royal Arch Newsletter #7

February 2020

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Provincial Information and Communication Officer

HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHAPTER

- Attend as many meetings & rehearsals as you can
- Support & participate
- Be prepared; make an effort to learn and perform some ritual
- Volunteer rather than waiting to be asked
- Speak to as many Companions as possible
- Be proactive and speak about the Royal Arch to your Craft Brethren. If they show interest, invite them to join
- If you cannot take office, think about how else you can contribute
- Pay your subscription on time
- Respond to the summons



50 Years Celebrated

The Most Excellent Grand Superintendent, E Comp. John Reid described it as "A night of celebration" as the Provincial Grand Chapter of Wiltshire and came together to celebrate E Comp. Ian Jacobs 50 years as a member of the Royal Arch; "a staunch supporter of the Royal Arch in a number of Provinces, E Comp Ian is an example to us all". Ian is fondly remembered as a Past Grand superintendent of the Province and many Companions can recall having their Supreme Grand Chapter Certificate presented to them by E Comp Ian in his own unique way.



Celebrating 50 years in The Royal Arch

E Comp David Hobbs received a small memento from the Most Excellent Grand Superintendent, E Comp John Reid to celebrate his 50 years as a Royal Arch Mason at the recent meeting of the Wiltshire Chapter of Agriculture.

E Comp David is "a well loved and respected Mason who is known throughout the Province" - Congratulations from us all



A Selection of Images from Around the Province

Be visible – be proud of the Royal Arch and wear your Chapter Jewel, tie and lapel badge. Take the opportunity to update your Craft Lodge about the latest developments in the Province and at Supreme Grand Chapter. Suggest the ‘Talking Heads’ presentation if you don’t have a ceremony.

The Private Conversation – talk to Brothers who are not yet members and gauge their interest. We know many Brethren want to join, but don’t know who to ask or how to go about it.

Know your audience – follow up the private conversation as appropriate. Revisit it on a regular basis and see if anything has changed.

Be Honest – be clear about commitments and cost. Ensure you recommend the right Chapter for the individual (it might not be the one attached to your Lodge).

RECRUITMENT – we all have a role to play!

We all want a vibrant Royal Arch Chapter and all have a role to play in recruiting new members – use the four steps above to play your part.

Dates for the Diary

Installation Convocations in Red

Note: change of date *

Tue 4 Feb 2020	St Aldhelm	2888	Malmesbury
Tue 11 Feb 2020	Methuen	1533	Marlborough
Wed 12 Feb 2020	Wiltshire	355	Swindon
Mon 24 Feb 2020	Concord	632	Trowbridge
Mon 24 Feb 2020	Lansdowne	626	Chippenham
Thu 27 Feb 2020	Thynne	1478	Warminster
Tue 3 Mar 2020	Stonehenge	6114	Salisbury
Thu 5 Mar 2020	Rectitude	335	Calne
Thu 5 Mar 2020	St Edmund	4714	Calne
Fri 13 Mar 2020	Harmony	663	Devizes
Wed 18 Mar 2020	Elias de Derham	586	Salisbury
Wed 18 Mar 2020	F & U	1271	Bradford on Avon
Thu 19 Mar 2020	Gooch	1295	Swindon
Mon 23 Mar 2020	Lansdowne	626	Chippenham
Tue 7 Apr 2020	Stonehenge	6114	Salisbury
Wed 8 Apr 2020	Wiltshire	355	Swindon
Thu 2 Apr 2020*	Border	3129	Ludgershall
Mon 20 Apr 2020*	Agriculture	9090	Corsham
Tue 14 Apr 2020	Methuen	1533	Marlborough
Thur 23 Apr 2020	Thynne	1478	Warminster
Mon 27 Apr 2020	Concord	632	Trowbridge
Tue 5 May 2020	St Aldhelm	2888	Malmesbury
Thu 7 May 2020	Gooch	1295	Swindon
Fri 15 May 2020*	Harmony	663	Devizes
Sat 9 May 2020	Provincial Annual Convocation		Melksham

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!

NOTICE: Events You May Wish To Support

05 March 2020

Royal Arch in Camera at St Edmund Chapter No. 4714 – a presentation to explain to the Royal Arch which is very useful for recent Exaltees

17 April 2020

Talking Heads at Lodge of Fidelity No. 663 – a presentation on the Royal Arch for Master Masons

Quadripartite Meeting

Members of the Province will be travelling to Wareham, Dorset on 6th February to attend the meeting of the Chapter of St Martin No. 7896. An annual event that brings members of four neighbouring Provinces together to celebrate the Companionship of The Royal Arch

A TRIP TO LONDON

If there is one thing I hate more than getting up at the crack of dawn, it's getting up at the crack of dawn when I don't have to. So, when my alarm went off at 6am, on the morning of The Supreme Grand Chapter meeting, I thought I must be mad to have booked to go up there. After a couple of cups of tea, I was ready for the train. I'd downloaded a few documentaries to make the journey go quicker and Louis Theroux, talking about gun violence in Milwaukee, was a great comfort as we rolled through the sprawling cityscapes of Andover and Basingstoke

The arrival into Waterloo is always a joy for me, the view of Battersea power station is always a reminder that we have now landed in our glorious capital city. As I walked out of the side exit, The Eye came into view and you can now be of no doubt as to where you are.

The walk over the Golden Jubilee bridge, and on up to Covent Garden, was very scenic if uneventful. It was when I reached Covent Garden that I realised I had lost my glasses and I would spend the rest of the day half blind. Walking out of Covent Garden, and turning right, "The Big House" came into view. It is a view I will NEVER grow tired of and walking up Long Acre the feeling of coming home grew.

Standing outside the back door, I spotted a friendly face, from the glorious Province of Wiltshire, and, after a while, one grew to eight. We robed and then walked up to the ante room. I went to my allotted check in and was very proud to be able to sign in as MEZ. I was given a token which allowed me to be admitted to The Grand Temple, a room which inspires me no end and always has.

Sitting among my fellow Companions I was taking in the room when we were called to order. The procession began to parade in and the opening began. I'm not sure what I was expecting but I was very surprised when Supreme Grand Chapter opened in the same way that my Chapter, Chapter of Concord No. 632 did. After the opening I again felt very proud to see The Most Excellent Grand Superintendent in and over our Province.

The meeting started with some business but was soon elevated with an entertaining, and very informative, talk about the history of Royal Arch Masonry in Scotland by the Most Excellent 1st Grand Principal of Scotland, Joseph John Morrow C.B.E., Q.C., LL.D. The Pro 1st Grand Principal mentioned that his talk had been too quick, and that had probably never been said about him, and I had to agree with him.

In no time, or so it seemed, Supreme Grand Chapter was closed and the queue for our cases began. It's always recommended to put your regalia in a bag you can wrap up and put in your pocket but I had too many electronics so I paid the price, albeit a small one, 10 minutes or so.

Outside we again gathered and followed the MEGS, trusting his navigation skills, often misguidedly, to our lunch venue. Excellent Companion Andrew Tiffin had done a fantastic job in choosing, and booking, the Civil Service Club on New Scotland Yard. The welcome was warm and the venue was very nice. Our esteemed leader, very generously, treated us all to a drink and it went down well!

Words & Photo E Comp Arthur Hanslip



SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER
OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS
OF ENGLAND



Playtime for The Grand Superintendent



It was an inspirational morning when The Most Excellent Grand Superintendent, E. Comp. John Reid, the Provincial Charity Steward, E. Comp. Andrew Tiffin and the Communications Officer, E. Comp Mark Fuller visited the Springboard Pre-School in Chippenham just before Christmas.

Springboard is an independent charity based in Chippenham working for children aged 0-5 with a special educational need and/or disability (SEN/D). They are a specialist opportunity group operating as the District Specialist Centre (DSC) for North Wiltshire and into Swindon; working in partnership with Wiltshire Council.

It provides a high-quality care and learning environment for young children with additional needs and their families. This is achieved by:

- Valuing all children as unique
- Working in partnership with parents and professionals to provide timely and appropriate support
- Ensuring that the children access enriched and individualised learning experiences through play
- Developing a professionally committed workforce that continues to meet the needs of the children and families
- Creating a sustainable and cost –effective approach to service delivery

The Provincial Grand Chapter, as part of its Children at Christmas initiative donated £1150.00 worth of resources to the centre; all of which will be used directly to benefit the children and their families. The resources donated included:

- iPads – used by playroom staff to take photos of the children and complete observations using an online Learning Journal; it enables parents to see what their child has been doing later the same day.
- Special playroom mirrors – giving the children the opportunity to see themselves and learn about themselves.
- Wobble boards – to help the children improve co-ordination and balance
- Rocker boards – used by the children to help improve co-ordination and balance.
- Finger Mini Wobble Boards – to help the children improve their finger dexterity.

The Companions were given a tour of the centre by Jane Boulton (Manager and Designated Safeguarding Lead) and handed over the resources to Anne Farrell (Business Support/ Company Secretary) who thanked the Companions of Wiltshire for their support.

Not wanting to miss the opportunity being offered, the MEGS was soon to be found outside with the children and got them to try out some of the equipment being provided – it wasn't that obvious who was having the most fun!



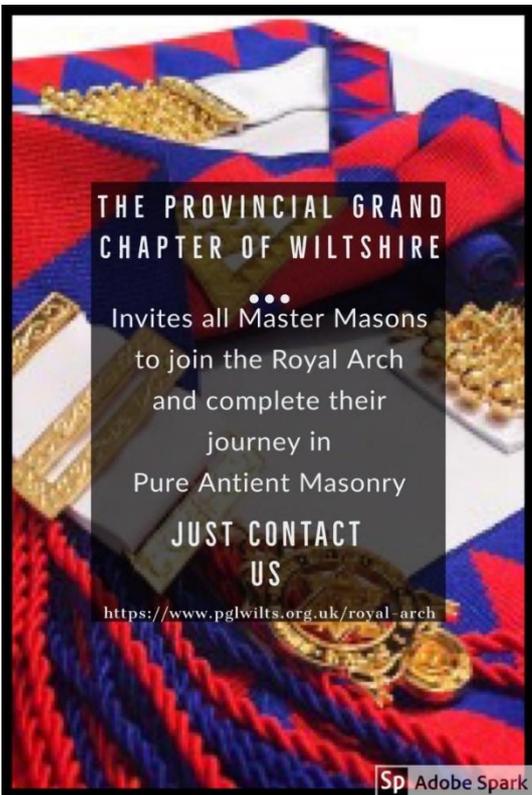
Travelling Quaich arrives in Warminster

A splendid evening at Thynne Chapter No 1478 on Thursday where Bro Glenn Bowden was Exalted into Royal Arch Freemasonry in an exemplary style by the Chapter Companions witnessed by visitors from near and far including the Grand Superintendent, 2nd and 3rd Provincial Grand Principals and numerous Grand Officers and Provincial Grand Officers.

In addition to the Exaltation, the Travelling Quaich was passed on by the Companions of Stonehenge No 6114 on its continuing journey round this wonderful Province. A number of Companions travelled up the A36 from Salisbury to assist the MEZ E Comp. Michael Barratt in delivering the Quaich into the care of Thynne Chapter in exemplary fashion.

As is now traditional, at the festive board, the Quaich was filled with single malt whisky and passed around the supper table for the Companions to share the benefit of Scotland's greatest export.

The next stop on the Travelling Quaich's tour of the Province is the Highworth Chapter No 9009 at Swindon on 24 January.



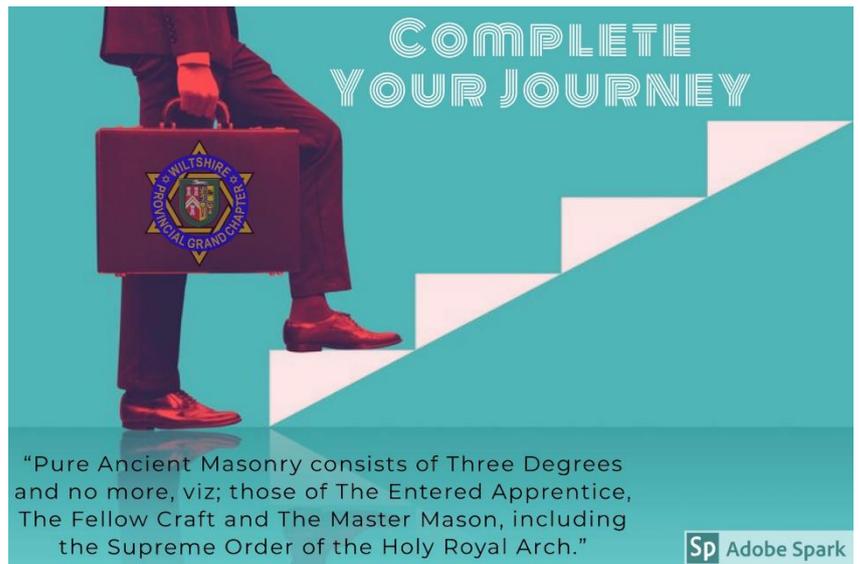
THE PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF WILTSHIRE

Invites all Master Masons to join the Royal Arch and complete their journey in Pure Antient Masonry

JUST CONTACT US

<https://www.pglwiltts.org.uk/royal-arch>

Sp Adobe Spark



COMPLETE YOUR JOURNEY

"Pure Ancient Masonry consists of Three Degrees and no more, viz; those of The Entered Apprentice, The Fellow Craft and The Master Mason, including the Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch."

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**THE CONVOCATION OF
PROVINCIAL GRAND
CHAPTER
MELKSHAM
SATURDAY 09TH MAY**