



SEPTEMBER 2025

A new start to a new Masonic year...



John Reid

Regular readers of [In Touch > On Line](#) our Provincial Newsletter will have noticed that the July and August editions were edited by Simon Leighfield and Steve Lee; I thank them for their contribution and it is my hope that they will do so again in future editions. For my part, the two month break allowed me to reflect on my first three years as Provincial Grand Master and discuss with my executive team new initiatives for 2026 and beyond. Freemasonry, in common with other organisations cannot afford to simply stand still in an ever changing world. We will not make changes for changes sake, which is a route I will not take, but I will introduce changes that can be justified and supported. I know that change for some is hard to accept, however change is often necessary to ensure the survival of our ancient and honourable institution. I

I look forward to welcoming all Master Masons to the annual meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge, which is once again being held at **The Civic, Trowbridge on Thursday 2nd October**. You can register online using the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/ProvGL2025> Incidentally, the Summons for Provincial Grand Lodge was published in the August edition of [In Touch>On Line](#) and is replicated on pages 2 and 3 of this edition.

I know just how much Teddies For Loving Care means to our members and I am particularly pleased that members of the Thamesdown Ladies Choir (TLC) have agreed to perform at a concert in aid of this wonderful charity. I'm sure you will recall TLC sang for TLC in May 2015 in Christchurch, Marlborough. I do hope you will join me at St Andrew's Church, Swindon for what I am sure will be a wonderful evening of music especially as we will have music from the shows. Teddies For Loving Care is one of our best kept 'secrets' and in order to fulfil its ambition to provide a lovable teddy to every child in need it needs to raise £9,000 each year.

I am pleased to advise that you can support the Wiltshire 2028 Festival and enjoy a 'tippie' of Three Degrees Gin. Available in three super flavours and you can order on line at tinyurl.com/ThreeDegGin I understand that for members attending Provincial Grand Lodge the distillers are providing tasting sessions.

One of the most regrettable aspects of Freemasonry (and any other similar organisation) is when a member fails to pay their annual subscription. The reasons for such behaviour do not require rehearsing it only needs to be borne in mind that a failure of a member to pay their dues does place a financial burden on the remaining members. It is at this time of the year that a Lodge Secretaries are planning how to introduce a 'proposal to exclude' under Rule 181 BoC. The notice to exclude a member is given on the Lodge Summons at which the proposal is to be voted on. While always a sad and disappointing moment, the By Laws of the Lodge, and the rules contained in the Book of Constitutions must be followed...to the letter.

And finally, yes there is always a 'finally' and this time it's a little different. For a variety of reasons our society has become a little vocal and active regarding the act of displaying the flag of England and that of the United Kingdom - I offer no view or opinion beyond that of stating the very obvious which is that flags as banners have been a part of history 'forever' - rallying to the flag has been an act practised by armies of all nations. The Lodge Banner (taken from old French word "baniere") is the heraldic device associated with Freemasonry; it identifies the Lodge and unifies its members. In October Provincial Grand Lodge will meet under the banners of Lansdowne Lodge of Unity No.626, The Border Lodge No.3129, and Wiltshire Lodge of Agriculture No.9090. I am grateful to the Master, Wardens, and the Brethren of each of these Lodges for their support, particularly in the provision of Stewards for the day.

Provincial Grand Lodge of Wiltshire

of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England



RW Bro John C Reid
Provincial Grand Master

VW Bro Simon R Leighfield **PGSwdB**
Deputy Provincial Grand Master

W Bro Steve Lee **PJGD**
Assistant Provincial Grand Master

Dear Sir and Brother,

July 2025

By command of the Provincial Grand Master for Wiltshire the Annual Meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge will be held in the Lansdown Hall, The Civic, Trowbridge under the banners of Lansdowne Lodge of Unity No. 626, The Border Lodge No. 3129 and Wiltshire Lodge of Agriculture No. 9090 on **Thursday 2nd October 2025 at 2.30 pm.**

All Present and Past Provincial Grand Officers, Masters, Past Masters and Wardens of the Province are summoned to attend. Master Masons are invited to be present.

Yours sincerely and fraternally	1 The Grove
	Warminster
Robert J Evans	BA12 8QL
Provincial Grand Secretary	Telephone 01985 214 874

Brethren are to wear dark Lounge Suits or Morning Dress with full dress Regalia (no gauntlets) and are requested to be in their seats in the Lansdown Hall by **2.00 pm**. It is the wish of the Provincial Grand Master that members wear the Provincial Tie.

Lunch (11.45 am for 12.00 pm) will be available in the **Usher Suite** for Brethren and their Masonic guests, subject to seats being available. **Lunch is £35 per head** which includes wine. Bookings may be made using the following online link: [Click Here](#) and payments may be made to

Sort Code:	23-05-80
Account Number:	43153161
Reference:	your Lodge number and your surname as a reference, eg 1234Bloggs.

Alternatively, bookings with remittance (giving name, initials, rank, Lodge number and any dietary requirements) can be sent to J H Deane Esq, 10 West Park Road, Corsham, SN13 9LN. Cheques to be made payable to **The Provincial Grand Lodge of Wiltshire**. Bookings must be made as soon as possible but no later than **Friday 5th September 2025**.

The Provincial Committee will meet at **The Masonic Hall, Trowbridge, at 7.00 pm on Friday 5th September 2025** to receive the accounts of the Provincial Grand Treasurer, to consider the disposal of funds and to transact any other Masonic business.



AUGUST 2025

Business of Provincial Grand Lodge

1. Welcome and Opening Ode
2. To open Provincial Grand Lodge
3. The RW Provincial Grand Master will be saluted according to ancient form
4. The RW Provincial Grand Master will greet our guests
5. The attendance of Provincial Officers and Lodges will be acknowledged
6. In Memoriam
7. The Minutes of the Meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge held at Trowbridge on Thursday 3rd October 2024 will be submitted for approval
8. To receive the Provincial Grand Treasurer's accounts
9. To elect a Provincial Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year; W Bro Clive L Emerson is nominated
10. To receive the report of the Provincial Grand Registrar
11. To receive the report of the Provincial Committee held on 5th September 2025
12. To elect the following for the ensuing year:
 - a. Two Brethren to serve as Account Examiners for the ensuing year; W Bro Keith R S Surry and W Bro Derek K Gibbens are nominated
 - b. Two Brethren to act as Account Examiners for the Wiltshire Masonic Charity Foundation; W Bro David Wallace and W Bro Colin W Ayton are nominated
 - c. Two Brethren to serve as Wiltshire representative members of the Masonic Charitable Foundation; W Bro Derek Gibbens and W Bro Chris Robbins are nominated
13. Wiltshire Association reports
14. The RW Provincial Grand Master will re-appoint as the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, VW Bro Simon R Leighfield **PGSwdB**
15. The RW Provincial Grand Master will re-appoint as the Assistant Provincial Grand Master, W Bro Stephen Lee **PJGD**
16. The RW Provincial Grand Master will appoint and invest the Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year
17. The Provincial Grand Officers will be saluted
18. The RW Provincial Grand Master will address the Brethren
19. To attend to any other Masonic Business
20. To close Provincial Grand Lodge
21. Closing Ode

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Alms will be received in aid of the Wiltshire 2028 Festival. Alms may be donated before the meeting at the Charity desk or on exiting Provincial Grand Lodge.



AUGUST 2025

A poignant reminder of the war in Europe...

Wiltshire Freemasons and members of The Widows Sons Motor Bike Association (Stonecutters) paid their respects to the fallen of the second World War (1939-45) when they embarked on their 'Ride to Normandy'.

Their ride out concluded with a visit to Gold Beach and the British memorial at Ver-Sur-Mer situated at the eastern end of Gold Beach between Arromanches and Courseulles.

The five D-Day landing beaches were Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno, and Sword. American troops landed on Utah and Omaha, Canadian troops on Juno, and British troops on Gold and Sword. These five beaches were the primary landing sites for the massive Allied invasion on 6th June 1944 the largest amphibious undertaking in the history of warfare, marking the start of the liberation of Western Europe from German occupation.

The naval component of 'Overlord' was responsible for landing over 132,000 ground troops on the beaches.

By 1944, over 2 million troops from over 12 countries were in Britain in preparation for the invasion. Allied forces consisted primarily of American, British and Canadian troops but also included Australian, Belgian, Czech, Dutch, French, Greek, New Zealand, Norwegian, Rhodesian and Polish naval, air or ground support.



A poignant image of 'shadows' reflecting the lives lost



AUGUST 2025

Meeting Calendar for September...

September's meeting calendar is brought to you by Paul Robinson with the help of the Secretaries and Scribes who provide the information on 'what is going on' in the Lodge or Chapter.

WILTSHIRE LODGE AND CHAPTER MEETINGS FOR SEPTEMBER 2025

Date	Lodge/Chapter Name	No.	Ceremony	Location
1	Downton Lodge	9064	1 st Degree	Downton
2	Stonehenge Chapter	6114	Exaltation	Salisbury
4	Lodge of Brothers In Arms	9540	1 st Degree	Salisbury
4	St Edmund Chapter	4714	Installation	Calne
5	Wiltshire Summer Lodge	9548	White Table	Calne
8	Lodge of Concord	632	1 st Degree	Trowbridge
9	Lansdowne Lodge of Unity	626	1 st Degree	Chippenham
10	Lodge of Friendship and Unity	1271	1 st Degree (PM)	Bradford On Avon
10	Stonehenge Lodge	6114	2 nd Degree	Salisbury
10	Wiltshire Chapter	355	Exaltation	Swindon
15	Chaloner Lodge	2644	1 st Degree	Melksham
15	The City Lodge	5955	2 nd Degree	Salisbury
16	White Horse Lodge	2227	3 rd Degree *1	Westbury
16	St Aldhelm Lodge	2888	Installation	Chippenham
17	Gooch Lodge	1295	2 nd Degree	Swindon
17	The Border Lodge	3129	1 st Degree *1	Ludgershall
17	Vastern Lodge	8977	Installation	Calne
17	Chapter Elias de Derham	586	Exaltation *2	Salisbury
18	Corsham Lodge	6616	1 st Degree	Corsham
19	Wiltshire Lodge of Fidelity	663	3 rd Degree	Devizes
19	Highworth Lodge	9009	3 rd Degree	Swindon
20	Wyvern Lodge	8620	2 nd Degree	Warminster
22	Lansdowne Chapter	626	Installation	Chippenham
23	Pleydell Lodge	4687	3 rd Degree	Swindon
23	St Edmund Lodge	4714	2 nd Degree	Calne
24	Radnor Lodge	4451	2 nd Degree	Salisbury
24	Moonraker Lodge	8747	Installation	Devizes
24	George Duke of Kent Lodge	8788	Installation	Swindon
25	New Temple Lodge	8435	Installation	Swindon
25	Thynne Chapter	1478	Installation	Warminster
26	Chapter of First Principals	6731	Installation	Calne

*1 = Demonstration Ceremony

*2 = Double Ceremony

To email the lodge Secretary or Chapter Scribe, simply add @wiltshirefreemasons.org.uk after the lodge or chapter prefix and number shown



In Touch > On Line

The newsletter for all Wiltshire Freemasons



AUGUST 2025

Never miss a word...



Have you had trouble following your Lodge or Chapter meeting? Help yourself and help the 2028 Festival by booking a hearing consultation with Reeds who will provide you with expert advice and guidance, while you contribute their normal fee (£85.00) to the 2028 Festival. Reeds Hearing Care cover everything to do with hearing, tinnitus, wax removal and can provide help, support and advice for all issues. Reeds is a professional, independent, family caring business based in Swindon. e.mail: reeds@reedsear.co.uk or text 07585525993.



Carols at Christmas

DECEMBER 14th 3.00 PM

MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE CHAPEL



SCAN AND BOOK TODAY



WILTSHIRE FREEMASONS

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE

THE CIVIC | TROWBRIDGE

THURSDAY 2ND OCTOBER

2.30PM

www.wiltshirefreemasons.co.uk



Image by Adrian Wooster



The Royal Arch...

Now available - A guide to help new Exaltees to explore fresh perspectives and confidently engage with fellow Companions in completing your journey in pure antient Masonry.



The Royal Arch
Welcome Companion

A narrative for the
21st Century Freemason

Ask me for a copy of Welcome Companion.
John Reid

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER
OF WILTSHIRE



Wiltshire Freemasons

One Journey • One Organisation



AUGUST 2025

A truly remarkable visit to France...

In August members of Lansdowne Lodge of Unity No.626 with their partners joined Op LANSDOWNE NEPTUNE, a battlefield study of the D Day landings that took place on 6th June 1944. Lead by Gary Logie who was armed with the experience of many studies with military and veteran groups.

The trip took in many of the most memorable venues, from Brecourt Manor (scene of Easy Companies attack shown in Band of Brothers), via Omaha and Juno beaches to Sword beach and Merville Battery. As well as some of the more esoteric venues such as Hillman fortress and the church at Ranville.

No trip to the Normandy battlefields could be complete without a visit to Pegasus Bridge, with a very convivial lunch at Cafe Gondree (the first building liberated on 'The Longest Day'), including a particularly enjoyable glass of wine with the inimitable Mme Gondree who was 5 years old and remembers her father handing champagne, that had been buried in his garden, to British soldiers during 'La Liberation').

The trip included a short wreath laying ceremony, where a wreath was laid on behalf of Chippenham Freemasons by the groups youngest member, who is keen for the Craft joining age to be lowered even further. It is planned to run another study next year, possibly to Normandy once again, or possibly elsewhere. Watch this space for details.









Wiltshire Freemasons
Three Degrees Dry Gin

Three Degrees Dry Gin, inspired by the rare flowers found on the vast chalk plateaus of Salisbury Plain and produced by a local distillery in Melksham,

TLC sing for

Thamesdown Ladies Choir

TLC

Teddies For Loving Care



Thamesdown Ladies Choir
in concert with

JAYDEN KAYE

songs from the shows

SHELLEY MORGAN
FRANCES COULDRIDGE
piano duets

Saturday 27th September 7.00pm

St Andrew's Methodist Church
Moredon Road | Swindon

Book Your Seats Using This Link
<https://tinyurl.com/TLCsingsTLC>

Free admission | donations in lieu

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

TLC
Teddies for
Loving Care
Wiltshire

