



The Severn Street Masonic Association newsletter

The weekly communication sent directly to brethren providing

- Masonic news
- A summary of lodge meetings
- Special dates
- Social events
- Provincial news

Issue 240

The SSMA Newsletter is available to all brethren whose Lodges belong to the "Community of Severn Street Lodges"

This is a weekly electronic News Letter that drops into the inbox of your computer, tablet or mobile device with Masonic & non-Masonic news, events that are of interest to all Masons:

- **Lodge News** a calendar of Regular Lodge meetings with some detail of the labour being carried out, to promote visiting.
- Masonic News SSMA, 5 of 9 Club, Provincial Grand Lodge of Warwickshire
- **Events** Lodge social events

All brethren whose Lodges meet at the Severn Street Masonic Hall qualify to receive this newsletter, to do so, please update us with your email address.

richard.izon@me.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A place for Lodges and individuals to advertise coming masonic events and greetings

The current Car Park barrier code remains 1923

Abuse of the car park will result in the immediate loss of usage





Lodge of Freedom 3914







An excellent evening was enjoyed on Friday 21st March 2025 at the Lodge of Freedom, witnessing an superb Initiation Ceremony.

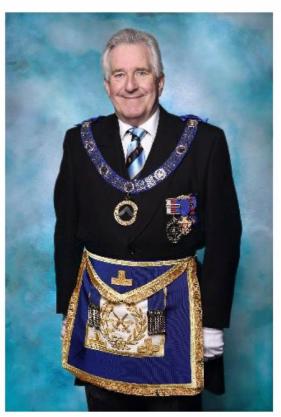


St Martin's Lodge 4011

On Monday 24th March 2025, In an excellent ceremony, Bro Aaron Cabena was the latest initiate to join the lodge, a rousing festive board was enjoyed by all who attended

Return of V W Bro Chris Rogers

At the meeting of the Lodge of Faith and Hope 4772 on Tuesday 22nd April, V W Bro Chris Rogers, PGSwdB, Past Deputy PGM will be making a welcome return to Warwickshire.



Chris will be presenting his paper called "To be a Good Man and True" with which he won the Masonic Papers Competition, first heard in Warwickshire Installed Masters Lodge in November 2018.

The title gives little clue to the content of the paper, which compares Freemasonry and its members in the early days of the Craft, with how we are today. Chris spent a long time researching, writing and updating the paper, and it is something not to be missed.

If you would like to attend, please contact the Lodge Secretary, W Bro David Whitehead by email secretary@lodgeoffaithandhope.co.uk

Welcome to Craftcast: The Freemasons Podcast

Craftcast is the official podcast of the United Grand Lodge of England (UGLE) - the governing body of Freemasonry in England, Wales, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man and Districts overseas. In every episode Shaun Butler, James Dalton and Stephen Whatley are chatting all things Freemasonry. They ask the big questions, talk about their experiences and interview special guests from across UGLE. Craftcast is the podcast for everyone from seasoned Freemasons to those just curious about what we do - so please come along for the ride.

https://www.ugle.org.uk/discover-freemasonry/resources/podcasts

In the next episode of Craftcast, our hosts sit down with Martin Cherry to learn more about four incredible artefacts from the Museum of Freemasonry! >

Intrigued? Episode drops on Thursday 🦙



Ougle.org.uk/discover-freem...

#Freemasons @MuseumFreemason





https://warwickshirefreemasons.org.uk/2028-appeal/



Fisher House

Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham proudly serves as the receiving hospital for injured military personnel, both from the UK and around the world.

Recognising the specific needs of these families, Fisher House UK was built to offer them a crucial support system during difficult times. This 18-bedroom haven provides a "home away from home" for injured service members and their families, allowing them to stay close to loved ones while receiving treatment at the hospital. Many of these individuals have served in combat, and their injuries often require ongoing care.







Provincial Dates for your Diary

Saturday 7th June 2025

Morning Session: Royal Arch Provincial Annual Convocation: All Companions are eligible to attend

Afternoon Session: Provincial Grand Lodge Annual Meeting: All Master Masons are eligible to attend

Held at The National Conference Centre, Motorcycle Museum, Coventry Road Solihull B92 0EJ

Sunday 29th June 2025

Annual Church Service: All masons including Entered apprentices & Fellow Crafts are eligible to attend

Held at St Mary's Church, Old Square, Warwick CV34 4RA

Dear Brethren.

I have much pleasure in advising you that the Provincial Wardens for the next Provincial year will be:

ProvSGW - W Bro Richard Izon ProvJGW - W Bro John Payne

This information will be shared with the brethren of Warwickshire on Saturday and must remain embargoed until then, please.

I am sure you will want to pass on your best wishes to these two worthy brethren in the meantime.

With warmest regards Philip

RW Bro Philip Hall Provincial Grand Master for Warwickshire



Notice of activity & Invitation to participate:

What: A 5 day walk from UGLE to Fisher House in Birmingham

Why: To raise money for Fisher House

Where: 2 competing routes, East & West, comprising of 5 individual days/stages

When: Thursday May 1st – Bank Holiday Monday May 5th

Who: The brethren of Stivichall Lodge, some chums and you? – We're particularly eager to hear from current and ex-military service personnel, as well as any physically active people and those able to offer logistical or other support.

How: On behalf of the WM & brethren of Stivichall Lodge, you and any interested parties are cordially invited to a participation in our endeavours.

Our hope is that, because this is a worthy cause:

- Military (& ex-mil) Personnel might want to help us keep us going and augment support for Fisher House
- There might be people in our network with local knowledge, so we can glean information to set more interesting tasks/challenges (for comedy value/masonic & military interest/promotional material)
- We could afford an opportunity for brethren, especially young/new masons to meet and befriend those from other provinces (5 of 9, etc)...
- ...serving as an opportunity to demonstrate/promote direct grass roots masonic activity, making a difference in our communities beyond our immediate masonic cohort...
- ... perhaps precipitating cross provincial visits/cooperation in future events
- We could provide a less formal environment to involve anyone interested in joining, where they can meet masons outside of the rooms or white table events, demonstrating what we do' beyond the square'
- It is also hoped brethren might have contacts to request limited practical support, e.g. access to the rooms to take photos, wash and brush up, general logistical support, etc whilst in a neighbouring Province's 'patch'.

Do you know anybody that fits these descriptions or who you feel might be a good fit for this challenge?

If anyone has any further questions or queries, please contact Kev via 07979381134 or truebluetaylor@gmail.com / truebluetaylor@yahoo.com, otherwise keep an eye out for further comms in the near future.

Kevin Taylor

Stivichall Lodge 5799



Welcome to 'The Bear', the new look and name for our Provincial newsletter and communications channels. 'In Touch' was a response to the COVID pandemic, and has been an enormously successful tool.

However, as times have changed, it felt appropriate to update and refresh the

name, and so 'The Bear' was born. It will still arrive in your inbox every month and contain important messages from the Province and showcase some of our good works.

The change of name also comes with some other changes. We have a Facebook group (which you can join with the QR code below) which we encourage you to join and to post about your lodge meetings, social events and charitable works.

If you wish to share your photos with the Communication Team, then there is a WhatsApp number (details below) which you can use for photos and short write ups about events. We are aiming to build a library of photos and stories which we can use to spread the word about the great work we do as Warwickshire Freemasons.

So why not take photos at your meetings (no photos when the lodge is open please!) and festive boards and share them with us? These photos should be fun and engaging and show the wonderful things we do, just make sure you have the consent of those in the photos to share them.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the Provincial meeting in June.

Philip Hall Head of Warwickshire Freemasons

Chat on WhatsApp with +44 7874 487712



Making a Donation into a Relief Chest via QR Codes

DID YOU KNOW?

You can now use QR Codes to make personal donations into your own Relief Chest. Each Relief Chest has a unique QR Code, enabling donors to contribute digitally before, during and after meetings. Relief Chest Representatives can request a copy of a QR Code via email, or they can be downloaded via the RC Online service.

QR Code Example:



Sample QR Image only, do not scan.

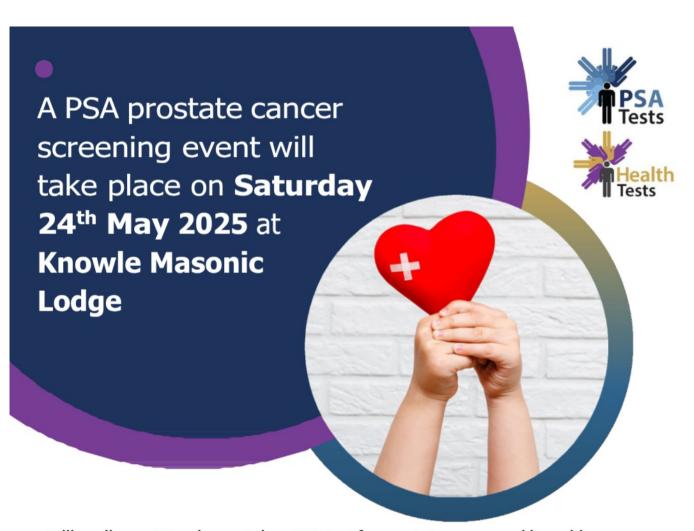
Making a Digital Donation using a QR Code:

- 1. Scan the QR Code using the camera on your mobile device.
- 2. Click on the displayed link.
- 3. Enter your personal and card details & confirm Gift Aid.
- 4. Complete your donation.

Please contact the Relief Chest Scheme if you have any queries (see contact details below).



Relief Chest Scheme, Masonic Charitable Foundation, 60 Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ Tel: 020 3146 3352 Email: reliefchest@mcf.org.uk



Calling all men 40 and over, take a PSA test for prostate cancer and it could save your life.

In its early stages, prostate cancer generally produces no symptoms, so it is important to diagnose the disease before symptoms arise and while it is still potentially curable.

A PSA test is nothing more than a simple blood test. It's currently the best readily available indicator of a possible prostate problem. So for something so simple that delivers such benefits why wouldn't you invest a few minutes of your time taking a test.

When: Saturday 24 May 2025

Time: 09:30 - 12:30

Where: KNOWLE MASONIC LODGE

1621 Warwick Road, Knowle, Solihull, West Midlands B93 9LF

Cost: £26,00

Book your test now:



For more information visit: https://gfct.mypsatests.org.uk/
Tel: 01926 419959 - E: info@psatests.org.uk

PODCASTS

In the car, on the train or in the comfort of your home are you listening to the wide range of subjects discussed in these masonic podcasts?



https://www.ugle.org.uk/discoverfreemasonry/resources/podcasts



Welcome to the Five of Nine Podcast the official Podcast of Warwickshire's New and Young Masons Club.

Each episode we will be sitting down with a special guest to discuss an important Masonic subject together with sharing our own experiences and bringing you the latest Warwickshire Masonic news.

https://fiveofnineclub.buzzsprout.com/ 2006028



https://solomonlive.zencast.website/? mc_cid=716f885b1f

A podcast is essentially a talk radio series on demand. This means that listeners don't need to turn up and tune in live, but can listen any time (and pretty much anywhere) they like.

March 2025

- 26 Forward meeting
- 28 Alma Mater meeting

APRIL 2025

- 02 Athol meeting: Double Initiation Ceremony
- 03 Elkington meeting: Passing Ceremony
- 04 Concord Mark
- 07 St Martin's RSM
- 08 Loyalty meeting: Double Initiation Ceremony
- 10 Happiness meeting
- 12 Matthew Clarke RAM & Mark
- 14 Holte Mark
- 15 Athol Chapter

Alma Mater Lodge 1644

888th Regular Meeting Friday 28th March 2025 at 6.00pm

Double Initiation Ceremony

almamaterlodge@gmail.com



Aston Old Edwardian Lodge 3857

682nd Regular Meeting

Wednesday 16th April 2025

secretary@lodge3857.org



Athol Lodge 74

Wednesday 2nd April 2025 Double Initiation Ceremony assistantSec@athol.org.uk

07784 283991

https://athol.org.uk



Elkington Lodge 1016

Thursday 3rd April 2025

Passing Ceremony elkingtonlodge1016@gmail.com 07976 298768

https://www.elkington1016.com



Forward Lodge 1180

Wednesday 26th March 2025

bob.manders@blueyonder.co.uk

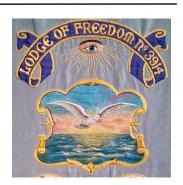
07910747326 https://forwardlodge.org.uk



Lodge of Freedom No 3914

Friday 19th September 2025 Installation Ceremony

seanborgazzi@hotmail.co.uk



Lodge of Happiness 7952

Thursday 10th April 2025 Installation Ceremony secretary@LodgeofHappiness.org.uk

https://lodgeofhappiness.org.uk



Lodge of Loyalty 4340

Tuesday 8th April 2025 Double Initiation Ceremony <u>ericrymer67@outlook.com</u>

07785 573554

https://lodgeofloyalty.org.uk



724th Regular Meeting Monday 28th April 2025

nimar.bridges@tiscali.co.uk

07787 430212



Tuesday 29th April 2025

richda100@gmail.com

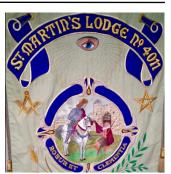
07711 072235

University of Birmingham Lodge 5628

Saturday 18th October 2025

uobl5628@gmail.com









CHAPTER

Having been raised to the Degree of a Master Mason, you are now eligible to be exalted into the Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch. A Royal Arch Chapter is a Masonic body which is attached to, but organised separately from, a Craft Lodge and is not in any way directly governed by it. Chapters meetings or Convocations usually meet 3 or 4 times a Masonic season.



https://www.ugle.org.uk

Athol Chapter No.74

Monday 15th April 2025

aaron@powell.uk.com

Chapter of Fortitude No.43

Wednesday 21st May 2025

peter@wellings.me.uk

Leigh Chapter No.887

Tuesday 6th May 2025 at 5.45pm mikehogarth@aol.com

St. Martins Chapter No.4011

Wednesday 10th September 2025

mediumal57@gmail.com

Rose Croix

The Rite, one of the oldest orders, consists of 33 degrees, of which the three degrees of Craft Freemasonry are accepted in lieu of the first three degrees of the Rite. The one worked in chapters is the 18°, is known by the grand title of Sovereign Prince of the Rose Croix of Heredom, It is from this that the Order gets its nickname in England and Wales:

Vernon Chapter Rose Croix

Friday 9th May 2025

andymills@chameleoncollection.co.uk

Aesculapius Chapter Rose Croix

WEdnesday 14th May 2025

mikeallcott@gmail.com

MARK

The Order of Mark Master Masons within England is one of the world's oldest fraternal society and seeks to encourage thoughtfulness for others, kindness in the community, honesty in business, courtesy in society and justice and fairness in all things.

The Degree of Mark Master Mason is considered the fulfilment of the Fellow Craft Degree; that being the case it is still necessary for the Candidate to be a Master Mason before he can be Advanced to the Degree of Mark Master Mason.

Charity Mark Lodge MMM 430

Thursday 24th April 2025

430mmm@warksmarkpgl.co.uk



Concord Lodge MMM 735

Friday 4th April 2025

735mmm@warksmarkpgl.co.uk



Holte MMM Lodge 1041

Monday 14th April 2025

1041mmm@warksmarkpgl.co.uk



Matthew Clarke MMM Lodge 1012

Saturday 12th April 2025

1012mmm@warksmarkpgl.co.uk

07817 588031



St Martins Lodge MMM 959

Thursday 18th September 2025

959mmm@warksmarkpgl.co.uk



Royal Ark Mariners

Matthew Clarke RAM 1012

Saturday 12th April 2025

1012ram@warksmarkpgl.co.uk

Concord RAM 735

Friday 16th May 2025

735ram@warksmarkpgl.co.uk



ORDER OF THE SECRET MONITOR

St Martin's No.509.

Monday 23rd June 2025



ROYAL & SELECT

St Martin's No.252

Monday 7th April 2025

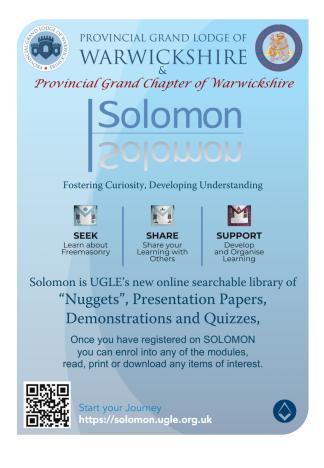
kdownes1235@btinternet.com



ORDER OF THE SCARLET CORD

Andrew C Sweeney No.140

Thursday 22nd May 2025 dennispotter@sky.com





Do you want to get more from your freemasonry? Looking for masonic based social events with other new and young masons? Looking for opportunities to get involved in new experiences?

We are the club for new and young Freemasons in Warwickshire. Started by seven keen young masons with the aim to build a social network for Freemasons in the Warwickshire area. We aim to bring people from any province who live or work in the Warwickshire area together for the purposes of fun, enjoyment, informal support, development and friendship under the masonic banner.

Over the year we will hold a series of social and masonic activities, which reflect the interests of our diverse members.

Qualifications for Membership:

- You must be a Freemason in a Warwickshire Lodge or Chapter and under the age of 55, and /or be a Freemason under the age of 55 who lives or works in the provincial area of Warwickshire.
- Cost of membership is £10.00 to join and there is no renewal fees. You continue to be a member until the age of 55.
- https://www.fiveofnineclub.org.uk







The joint Provincial Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Chapter Website.

warwickshirefreemasons.org.uk

The website is packed full of information, useful resources and information including:

- Yearbook.
- Toast lists.
- Forms and document downloads for Lodge Secretaries and Scribe E's.
- Guidance documents and booklets.
- Members Pathway and Archway links and documents.
- Procedure and information for Lodge and Chapter officers.
- Help and advice on setting up Lodge and Chapter websites and social media
- Charity information, documents, downloads and links.
- The Book of constitutions.
- Music library.
- Provincial Shop.
- Information on women Freemasons.
- Information for prospective new Freemasons.
- Meeting calendar with details of every meeting in Warwickshire.
- And (of course) much more...

The password for the members area is: WIML4538

Brethren, the data protection regulations came into force on 25th May 2018

We hold your email address which under the new General Data Protection Regulation, GDPR, it is a requirement that we advise you that this is the case.

It is very important that if you wish to change your preference (opt in or out) and have this data removed now or at any future time, that you advise us straight away, by email instruction or by unsubscribing at any time.

This is your data and we do not wish to infringe your rights in any way.

Thank you for your continued support.