



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 265

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, Warwickshire Light Blues 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



CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

From Philip L Hall

The Head of Freemasonry in Warwickshire

<https://warwickshirefreemasons.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Warwickshire-Freemasons-4.mp4>

Dear Brethren and Companions of Warwickshire,

As many of you know, I do prefer the medium of video for many of my messages but at Christmas I wanted to add this written version to accompany the video message.

This is always a special time of year and I am sure we all enjoy a mince pie or two, along with a mulled wine – I know I do. It is sometimes hard to remember the true meaning of Christmas amongst all the noise, and tinsel and shiny lights but if you get time to sit quietly, or perhaps attend a carol service, then a period of quiet reflection is a beautiful antidote to all the noisy commercialism. The Mark Carol service last weekend was just such a place – a thoughtful sermon, great choice of carols and a tasty sausage roll to finish – well done to all concerned.

I am so proud of Warwickshire Freemasons and delight every day in the privilege of being the Provincial Grand Master and Most Excellent Grand Superintendent of such a wonderful province. When I look back on the tremendous work that has been undertaken in so many areas across the Craft and the Royal Arch by a relatively small number of brethren and companions, I am so grateful for the devotion of their time and energy on all our behalf's. We all owe a debt of thanks as we see the real-world impact of their efforts with increased initiation and exaltations happening across the whole province.

Add to this, the generous support of all to the Tercentenary Appeal with some amazing sponsored events taking place alongside the reliable consistency of regular donations at both unit and member level. This has had a profound effect on Fisher House and the way it can be run. At a recent meeting, I heard one of their team describe walking into the building as 'Walking into a hug', which those of us who have had the privilege to visit will recognise wholeheartedly.

As the world seems to become an ever scarier and unpredictable place, with horrific conflicts still raging and people suffering unimaginable privations, it is now, more than ever, that freemasons consistency of care, of support, of kindness and of community awareness, comes to the fore. We all became freemasons for different reasons, but we all found a place where we have a sense of belonging, a bond of trust and a shared commitment to make a difference.

This time of year brings those instincts front and centre and I know we will all play our part in trying to make a positive difference, however small, to the lives of those around us.

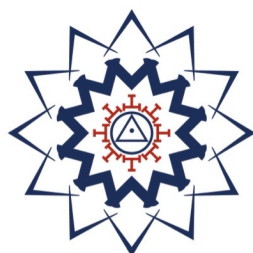
Julie and I will once again enjoy the company of family at our home over Christmas – always a busy time in the Hall household. We both wish you all an equally happy and enjoyable time with your own families and friends.

Merry Christmas brethren and companions,

Philip Hall
Provincial Grand Master and Most Excellent Grand Superintendent



PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE &
PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF
WARWICKSHIRE



BUILDING TOGETHER

Attracting Members – Growing Freemasonry

<https://warwickshirefreemasons.org.uk/building-together-seminars/>

We are pleased to announce that the first two seminars introducing the Building Together programme within the Province have now been confirmed. These seminars mark the beginning of our ongoing commitment to strengthening the links between the Craft and the Royal Arch, with further sessions planned for September next year and twice yearly thereafter, providing continued updates and guidance.

All Worshipful Masters, Most Excellent Zerubbabels, Lodge/Chapter Mentors, and Membership Officers are requested to attend.

If your Membership Officer and/or Mentor is unavailable, please extend this invitation to two other influential members of your Lodge or Chapter.

We are expecting three representatives from each Lodge and Chapter to attend.

Seminar Outline

- Welcome and Introduction
By the Deputy Provincial Grand Master and Deputy Grand Superintendent, including an update on the continuing development of the closer relationship between the two Orders.
- Overview of the Building Together Platform
How the platform supports a member's journey from initiation to exaltation and beyond, with clear integration into Solomon for learning and development.
- Membership Officers' Demonstration
Showing how the platform can aid recruitment and retention.
- Mentors' Perspective
Exploring how the platform can be used to engage all members, not only new ones, to maintain interest and involvement throughout their Masonic journey.
- Solomon Integration
Demonstrating how the platform connects with Solomon, including examples of Solomon Nuggets and how they can enhance understanding, retention, and engagement.

Monday 12th January 2026 at Victoria House, Leamington Spa at 7pm
or

Monday 9th February 2026 at Yenton Assembly Rooms at 7pm

BOOK NOW by pressing the link above



A bold leap into the future

Picture this: a Masonic community where paper forms are relics, where your next Lodge meeting syncs effortlessly to your phone, and where every Brother's face and name are just a tap away.

This isn't a distant dream—it's here, now, with **Portal**, our ground-breaking new membership platform.

Unveiled at the March QC by the Pro Grand Master Jonathan Spence, DL, Portal builds on the trusted foundations of Adelphi, UGLE's membership database, and Hermes, the Lodge Secretaries' tool.

But **Portal** takes it further—straight into the hands of you, the Brethren. It's empowerment in action: control your data, plan your Masonic journey, and connect like never before—all from your computer, tablet, or phone.

And security? Industry-leading privacy features mean you decide who sees what. Your information, your rules.

The Pro Grand Master requires us all to register for Portal and to explore our exciting new membership application

Log on by Desktop: https://desktop.portal.ugle.org.uk/auth/register?mc_cid=7815c19e06&mc_eid=105f78913a

Log on by Mobile: https://mobile.portal.ugle.org.uk/auth/register?mc_cid=7815c19e06&mc_eid=105f78913a

General Lodge of Instruction No 587

Founded in the Year 1854

Working under the sanction of the Howe Lodge No 587 and "recognised" by the
Committee of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement No. 256, London
Membership No. 30

The General Lodge of Instruction No 587 is where we learn our ritual, discuss etiquette, procedure, and protocol, and ask our preceptors any questions we have. Laughter is common, gentle mischief is tolerated, and mistakes are allowed. The theory is that members take the office that they are likely to occupy the following year, thus enabling them to be fully prepared for the year ahead.

The Lodge meets at the Severn Street Masonic Hall (external rehearsal rooms), 60 Severn Street, Birmingham B1 1QG, every Thursday evening at 6:45 p.m. throughout the year, except during the months of June, July and August.

Any Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, Master Mason or Past Master, being a subscribing member of a Regular Lodge, is eligible for Membership and may join at any meeting.

Terms of Admission

Weekly Fee £1.00

Annual Subscription [pro rata] £10.00 p.a.

Please pay by BACS for the year, [or pro rata], in advance TOTAL £39.00

Bank Details: Metro Bank, General Lodge of Instruction No. 587

Account Number: 48818099 Sort Code: 23-05-80

A Brother who has been an active member may, on becoming a Past Master, become a Life member on payment of £15.00.

Senior Preceptor:

W. Bro. J.R. Emms, **PSGD, PastAPGM**, PM 4563, PM 4538 and PM 9620

Assistant Preceptors:

W. Bro. M. D. Hogarth, **PAGDC** and PM 4563

W. Bro. J. Herrick, PProvJGD and PM 8401

W. Bro. Jasvinder Sambi, PPGSD and PM 587

Secretary

W. Bro. Terry J. Wood

07767 247896 gloi587warwickshire@outlook.com

Some meeting dates and times are subject to change at short notice, so please refer to your email or the WhatsApp group for any notifications from the Secretary.

The General Lodge of Instruction No 587 undertake to teach the ritual according to the method demonstrated by The Emulation Lodge of Improvement whose Committee are satisfied with that undertaking.

The General Chapter of Instruction (GCol)

is a wonderful resource at the heart of the Provincial Grand Chapter of Warwickshire and has, over the years, provided many a companion with a platform for learning, development, confidence, and friendship.

Traditionally, companions below the chairs from chapters across Warwickshire have come together at the GCol to practice the ceremony of exaltation culminating in a fabulous annual festival in April each year where they demonstrate the ceremony to their peers, numerous visitors, and VIPs from other provinces.

The next festival is to be held at Atherstone **Masonic Hall on Wednesday 15 April 2026**, save the date!

The offices are already filled this year, but companions are encouraged to attend any rehearsal to meet new friends, pick up some tips, ask some questions, and register interest to participate next year (rehearsals starting August 2026), plus join in a casual social afterwards at the pub next door.

All rehearsals are at 7.30pm and are listed below.

- Mon 13th October - Knowle
- Thu 6th November - Knowle
- Mon 8th December - Knowle
- Mon 12th January - Knowle
- Thu 5th February - Knowle
- Mon 9th March - Knowle
- TBA - Atherstone
- TBA - Atherstone
- Wed 15th April - Annual Festival - Atherstone - 5.30pm

There is a plan to move rehearsals around the province and to bring practice sessions for the ceremony of installation to the GCol as well.

If you're interested, or would like any further info, please email the chapter preceptor, Mark Phillips, or me, Stewart Lenton. There is a dedicated email address to register interest, and for all matters related to the General Chapter of Instruction:

RACofI@warwickshirefreemasons.org.uk

Lodge of Happiness
No.7952



On Thursday 11th December 2025 the lodge performed a double Raising Ceremony, all who attended witnessed some exemplary ritual.



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

FISHER HOUSE APPEAL

For Warwickshire Tercentenary 2028

In 2028 the Province of Warwickshire will be celebrating its 300th anniversary.

Fisher House was chosen, for the tercentenary appeal, as it's work supporting the families and loved ones of military personnel and veterans being treated at the Centre for Defence Medicine, based at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham, is both inspirational and in line with the commitment of the Province to the Armed Forces Covenant.





Please donate now

Registered Charity No. 281942

Click [HERE](#) to donate

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

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).



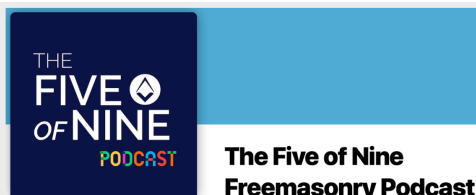
Relief Chest Scheme, Masonic Charitable Foundation,
60 Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ Tel: 020 3146 3352 Email: reliefchest@mcf.org.uk

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/discover-freemasonry/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://solomon-live.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.



Wishing you and your families, a merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2026

Alma Mater Lodge 1644

890th Regular Meeting
Friday 23rd January 2026

almamaterlodge@gmail.com



Aston Old Edwardian Lodge 3857

685th Regular Meeting

Wednesday 21st January 2026

secretary@lodge3857.org



Athol Lodge 74

Wednesday 7th January 2026

assistantSec@athol.org.uk

07784 283991

<https://athol.org.uk>



Elkington Lodge 1016

Thursday 22nd January 2026

elkingtonlodge1016@gmail.com

07976 298768

<https://www.elkington1016.com>



Forward Lodge 1180

Wednesday 28th January 2026

bob.manders@blueyonder.co.uk

07910747326

<https://forwardlodge.org.uk>



Lodge of Freedom No 3914

Friday 16th January 2026

seanborgazzi@hotmail.co.uk



Lodge of Happiness 7952

Thursday 8th January 2026

secretary@LodgeofHappiness.org.uk

<https://lodgeofhappiness.org.uk>



Lodge of Loyalty 4340

Thursday 13th January 2026

Initiation Ceremony

ericrymer67@outlook.com

07785 573554

<https://lodgeofloyalty.org.uk>



St Martin's Lodge 4011

725th Regular Meeting

Monday 26th January 2026

nigelbridges44@gmail.com

07787 430212



St Paul's Lodge No.43

Tuesday 27th January 2026

richda100@gmail.com

07711 072235



University of Birmingham Lodge 5628

Saturday 20th February 2026

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 16th February 2026

aaron@powell.uk.com

Leigh Chapter No.887

Friday 2nd January 2026

mikehogarth@aol.com

Chapter of Fortitude No.43

Tuesday 17th February 2026

peter@wellings.me.uk

St. Martins Chapter No.4011

Wednesday 14th January 2026

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

Thursday 19th February 2026

andymills@chameleoncollection.co.uk

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 26th February 2026

430mmm@warksmarkpgl.co.uk



Concord Lodge MMM 735

Friday 6th February 2026

735mmm@warksmarkpgl.co.uk



Holte MMM Lodge 1041

Monday 9th February 2026

1041mmm@warksmarkpgl.co.uk



Matthew Clarke MMM Lodge 1012

Saturday 14th February 2026

1012mmm@warksmarkpgl.co.uk

07817 588031



St Martins Lodge MMM 959

Thursday 15th January 2026

959mmm@warksmarkpgl.co.uk



Matthew Clarke RAM 1012

Concord RAM 735

Saturday 10th January 2026

Friday 6th March 2026

1012ram@warksmarkpgl.co.uk

735ram@warksmarkpgl.co.uk



ORDER OF THE
SECRET MONITOR

St Martin's No.509.

Monday 2nd February 2026

gavin.cumberland@btinternet.com



ROYAL & SELECT

St Martin's No.252

Monday 6th April 2026

kdownes1235@btinternet.com




ORDER OF THE
SCARLET CORD


Andrew C Sweeney No.140

Thursday 5th February
2026

dennispotter@sky.com




PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF
WARWICKSHIRE
&
Provincial Grand Chapter of Warwickshire




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Fostering Curiosity, Developing Understanding



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and Organise
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<https://solomon.ugle.org.uk>





PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE &
PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF
WARWICKSHIRE



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.
- 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.
- Meeting calendar with details of every meeting in Warwickshire.

For how to log on and the password please contact your lodge secretary

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.