



The Masonic Province of West Kent



Province of West Kent

eBULLETIN No 37

Published: 1st JUNE 2008

ADDRESS BY THE MW THE GRAND MASTER AT THE ANNUAL CRAFT INVESTITURE ON WEDS 30 APRIL 2008

The Grand Master opened his address as follows: I start by saying a very warm welcome to everyone attending our Grand Lodge meeting today and I congratulate all those whom I have had the pleasure of investing with Grand Rank or promoting to higher office. As Grand Officers you have an important leadership part to play in the future of Freemasonry. By leadership I mean setting consistently high standards in your own Masonic life as well as demonstrating your understanding of the meaning of the ritual and the principles and tenets of the Craft. This understanding will help you to guide others at all stages of their Masonic journey, remembering to encourage them all to talk openly about their Freemasonry to potential candidates, family and acquaintances.

To read the address in full visit: <http://www.ugle.org.uk> and follow the link.

THE FREEMASONS' GRAND CHARITY: MASONIC RELIEF GRANTS UPDATE

Between March 2008 and May 2008, 476 Masonic Relief Grants were made to support individual Masons and their dependants experiencing hardship. In total, nearly £1 million (£922,561.00) was approved for payment to assist the beneficiaries.

Masonic Relief Grants represent one of the primary activities of The Freemasons' Grand Charity. Grants are made on behalf of Masons or the dependants of deceased Masons – including widows, partners and also divorced/separated spouses or partners – who are experiencing hardship; no case of genuine need is ever rejected. Grants are made for essential daily living costs, unexpected needs or towards the purchase of disability equipment. They typically range from £350 up to £4,500 per applicant per year, and can be renewed for as long as the need lasts. In cases of exceptional need larger grants may be awarded.

Applications are assessed against guidelines taking into account the income, expenditure and savings of the applicant, but as a guide individuals with a Masonic connection who are in receipt of support from the State, such as Pension Credit, are likely to qualify.

For further information on Masonic Relief Grants, including eligibility criteria and the application process, contact:

Roger Freeman: rfreeman@the-grand-charity.org

or Sandra Neary: sneary@the-grand-charity.org

LONDON TO BRIGHTON BIKE RIDE

Our Provincial Grand Charity Steward has foolishly committed himself to enter this years London to Brighton cycle ride on Saturday 28th June 2008. The event is being organised by Middlesex and our Province have been invited to enter as many individuals or teams as we are able. In practical terms individuals or teams of 2 to 5 works well as the course has a number of check points along the route to enable teams to change riders. The event culminates in a Barbeque and Award Ceremony at Barford Court the RMBI home in Hove. Any cyclists wishing to take part should contact W.Bro Phil May as soon as possible:
Tel :- 01622 890901 or e-mail philipmay@homecall.co.uk

2009 PROVINCIAL QUIZ

The Provincial Quiz dates for 2009 are as follows:

Dartford **Friday, 30th January, 2009**
Welling **Thursday, 19th February, 2009**
Sevenoaks **Tuesday, 24th February, 2009**
Bromley (Final) **Monday, 30th March, 2009**

To book you Team in, please contact Derek Pearce: email: derek@ponyinvest.co.uk

HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY AND FRATERNALISM

A new MA course in the History of Freemasonry and Fraternalism is to be held at the University of Sheffield commencing Autumn 2008.

For further information visit: <http://www.shef.ac.uk/history/ma/freemasonry>



DEMELZA APPEAL

The cheque was presented in the Temple at Provincial Grand Lodge on Tuesday 6th May 2008 immediately after the Lodge is closed.

To view the Cheque Presentation Photo visit:

http://www.freemasons-westkent.org.uk/news_provincial_archive.php

A full report will appear in the Summer Edition of WKNews, you Lodge or Chapter can still donate to the Appeal. Your Donations should be made via Geoff Chisholm at the Provincial

Office or directly into: **The West Kent Masonic Appeal for Demelza House (Eltham) - Relief Chest No. E0111 at Freemasons' Grand Charity, Gt Queen Street**
Cheques should be made payable to "GRAND CHARITY"

HOLMSEDALE LODGE 874 COMEDY NIGHT - SATURDAY 20 SEPTEMBER

On Saturday 20th September 2008, Holmsdale Lodge No. 874 will be presenting "A Lodge Full of Laughs" at the St. Johns Masonic Centre, Tunbridge Wells. Several top acts will be presenting an evening of stand-up comedy.

To Find out more visit: http://www.freemasons-westkent.org.uk/news_forthcoming_events.php

CONTINUING TO SUPPORT OTHER LODGES.

The support team, under the chairmanship of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, is continuing to support Lodges by visiting them as paying guests. If you can also add your support by attending as a paying guest you will be more than welcome.

Please contact : fredhalligan@aol.com

SUPPORTING OTHER CHAPTERS

The support team, under the chairmanship of the Deputy Grand Superintendent, is continuing to support Chapters by visiting them as paying guests. If you can also add your support by attending as a paying guest you will be more than welcome. Please contact: E. Comp Tony Forwell by email at: t.forwell@fsmail.net

VISIT THE PROVINCIAL WEBSITE: www.freemasons-westkent.org.uk

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