

**Provincial Grand Lodge  
of  
East Lancashire**



**REPORT**

OF THE

**ANNUAL MEETING**

HELD AT

**KING GEORGE'S HALL**

**BLACKBURN**

**THURSDAY, 27 NOVEMBER 2008**

BRETHREN ARE REQUESTED TO RETAIN THIS  
ISSUE AS NO OTHER DISTRIBUTION WILL BE MADE.

**Provincial Grand Lodge of East Lancashire  
Annual Meeting  
King George's Hall, Blackburn  
Thursday, 27 November 2008**

**Registered Attendance**

RWBro Jack Price .....	ProvGM
VWBro Dr NG Bramley-Haworth, Deputy Provincial Grand Master .....	PGSwdB
WBro H Woodward, Assistant Provincial Grand Master .....	PSGD
WBro PG Mountford, Assistant Provincial Grand Master .....	PSGD
WBro J Sutcliffe, Assistant Provincial Grand Master .....	PSGD
WBro DN Thornhill, JP, Assistant Provincial Grand Master .....	PSGD
WBro MS Caller, Assistant Provincial Grand Master .....	PSGD
WBro SM Blank, Assistant Provincial Grand Master .....	PDepGDC
WBro GW Litherland, Assistant Provincial Grand Master .....	PAGDC
VWBro N Morrison, Past Deputy Provincial Grand Master .....	PGSwdB
WBro H Hesmondhalgh, Past Assistant Provincial Grand Master .....	PSGD
WBro MK Worsley, Past Assistant Provincial Grand Master.....	PSGD
WBro B Adshead .....	PJGD
WBro A Bennion .....	PJGD
WBro K Brown, TD.....	PJGD
WBro JJ Clubbe .....	PJGD
WBro PJ Conn .....	PJGD
WBro DJ Day .....	PJGD
WBro HAJ Garnett .....	PJGD
WBro G Glassbrook .....	PJGD
WBro IW Greenwood .....	PJGD
WBro MB Hill .....	PJGD
WBro JF Huddart .....	PJGD
WBro F Kemp .....	PJGD
WBro G Lee .....	PJGD
WBro RS Norris .....	PJGD
WBro WA Potts .....	PJGD
WBro PJ Swain .....	PJGD
WBro BW Taylor .....	PJGD
WBro R Taylor .....	PJGD
WBro DH Thompson .....	PJGD
WBro JE Thompson .....	PJGD
WBro RT Unsworth .....	PJGD
WBro R Wellock .....	PJGD
WBro the Rev'd DK Pryce .....	PAGChap
WBro the Rev'd CGW Pilkington .....	PAGChap
WBro KO Beeston .....	PAGReg
WBro MA Adler .....	PAGDC
WBro HJ Bentwood .....	PAGDC
WBro DCH Brown .....	PAGDC
WBro E Cheadle .....	PAGDC
WBro N Clarke .....	PAGDC
WBro N Cope .....	PAGDC
WBro JD Farmer .....	PAGDC
WBro P Hargreaves .....	PAGDC
WBro W Hodkinson .....	PAGDC
WBro B Horne .....	PAGDC

WBro KA Jones .....	PAGDC
WBro EJ Kirkbride .....	PAGDC
WBro JA Knowles .....	PAGDC
WBro J Lillie .....	PAGDC
WBro W Lockett .....	PAGDC
WBro PRB Messum .....	PAGDC
WBro CJ Oversby .....	PAGDC
WBro N Rayner .....	PAGDC
WBro A Rothburn .....	PAGDC
WBro GH Scaife .....	PAGDC
WBro D Simpson .....	PAGDC
WBro ADP Smith .....	PAGDC
WBro BE Wetherell .....	PAGDC
WBro CJ Bolton .....	PAGSwdB
WBro CW Firth .....	PAGSwdB
WBro IF Hancox .....	PAGSwdB
WBro P Holt .....	PAGSwdB
WBro P Humphreys .....	PAGSwdB
WBro D Roberts .....	PAGSwdB
WBro H Rogers .....	PAGSwdB
WBro JM Scott .....	PAGSwdB
WBro T Thomas .....	PAGSwdB
WBro B Bristol .....	PAGSuptWks
WBro I Eastwood .....	PAGSuptWks
WBro W Gow .....	PAGSuptWks
WBro DL Pilling .....	PAGSuptWks
WBro BF Sigsworth .....	PAGSuptWks
WBro JD Cook .....	PGStB
WBro JR Stables .....	PGStB

**Acting Officers**

WBro S Hughes .....	ProvSGW
WBro P Aspinall .....	ProvJGW
WBro the Rev'd JE Thompson, PJGD .....	ProvGChap
WBro RI Frankl, PAGDC .....	ProvGTreas
WBro AJ Pearson .....	ProvGReg
WBro HAJ Garnett, PJGD .....	ProvGSec
WBro N Cope, PAGDC .....	ProvGDC
WBro D Dunn .....	ProvGSwdB
WBro DJ Halford .....	ProvDepGChap
WBro PL Watson .....	ProvDepGReg
WBro D Norbury .....	ProvDepGReg
WBro KA Horne, PProvJGW .....	ProvDepGSec
WBro HN Pickering .....	ProvDepGDC
WBro MP Roche .....	ProvDepGDC
WBro DS Bristol .....	ProvDepGDC
WBro B Horne, PAGDC .....	ProvGAlm
WBro DH Geldard, PProvJGW .....	ProvGChStwd
WBro D Rothwell .....	ProvSGD
WBro CL Westbrook .....	ProvSGD
WBro R Castle .....	ProvJGD
WBro JS Corless .....	ProvJGD
WBro JB Harrison .....	ProvJGD
WBro the Rev'd JG Winstanley .....	ProvAGChap

WBro SG Longworth .....	ProvAGChap
WBro BP McDermott.....	ProvAGReg
WBro D Holmes .....	ProvAGDC
WBro B Platt .....	ProvAGDC
WBro G Routh.....	ProvAGDC
WBro MJ Squires .....	ProvAGDC
WBro AR Taylor.....	ProvAGSwdB
WBro PG Bowen.....	ProvGOrg
WBro H Cooper.....	ProvGStB
WBro FGH Smith .....	ProvGPurs
WBro BW Robinson, PProvJGW.....	ProvAGPurs
WBro JR Astbury .....	ProvGStwd
WBro JR Beninson.....	ProvGStwd
WBro RG Chapman .....	ProvGStwd
WBro PJ Collins.....	ProvGStwd
WBro RA Graham .....	ProvGStwd
WBro D Heskett .....	ProvGStwd
WBro SJ McLeod .....	ProvGStwd
WBro ME Roberts .....	ProvGStwd
WBro KT Rowlatt .....	ProvGStwd
WBro PA Sellers .....	ProvGStwd
WBro AP Thornton.....	ProvGStwd
WBro GR Wood .....	ProvGStwd
WBro I Ronson, PProvGSuptWks .....	ProvGTyler

The Grand Officers, Past Provincial Grand Officers, Past Masters and other Brethren assembled in the Lodge room.

The Distinguished Guests, RA Delegation and the Provincial Grand Officers of the Year, entered in procession.

Provincial Grand Lodge was opened in due form and with solemn prayer at 3.30 pm.

*RW Provincial Grand Master:*

“Brethren, since our last Annual Meeting held on 29 November 2007, we have been informed of the deaths of the following Grand Officers:

RWBro Peter Walthall, PPGM	16 February 2008
RWBro James D Hemsley, PPGM	20 August 2008
WBro Eric C Griffiths, PAGDC	23 August 2008
WBro Frederick C Mephram PSGD, PAPGM	9 September 2008
WBro Harry Lawton, PJGD	1 October 2008

They were all well known, particularly in their own areas of the Province but three of these Brethren clearly have a special place in our hearts. I refer of course to RWBro Peter Walthall; we are all familiar with Peter, how he manfully continued despite very indifferent health during his term of office. For my part, my memory of him will be his wit and his candour, which are perhaps to be treasured these days, Brethren. RWBro James D Hemsley, known to all and sundry throughout the English Constitution as Jimmy, what a wonderful man, a man who optimised what Masonry should be, the love for one’s fellow. He was the perfect gentleman, the charming host and very much loved by everyone, what an epitaph. Then we, of course, come to Fred Mephram; the Nigerian Mason. He spent a great deal of his adult life in West Africa and became a Freemason out there and brought with him a bit of the Old World

Colonial charm. The ever ready smile, the twinkle in the eye, he saw fun in everything without ever being malicious or unkind. A lovely man. We shall miss them. All I would say to you, my Brethren, is that we learn a lesson from their example.

In addition and sadly, 88 Provincial Grand Lodge Officers and many Brethren from private Lodges have passed to the Grand Lodge above. They will be sadly missed and the best remembrance of them is to continue to work hard for the Order in which they served and gave so much.”

*The Brethren were then requested to stand and reflect for a few moments in memory of departed merit.*

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge, held on 29 November 2007, and the Special Meeting held on 18 June 2008 [copies of which had been circulated and which have also been available on the Provincial website], were taken as read and confirmed.

### **RE-APPOINTMENT OF THE DEPUTY PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER AND THE ASSISTANT PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTERS**

*RW Provincial Grand Master:*

I now have the greatest possible pleasure to re-appoint as my Deputy Provincial Grand Master, VWBro Dr Nigel G Bramley-Haworth, PGSwdB.

*[The Deputy Provincial Grand Master was saluted].*

Now, Brethren, it is not that long ago since we were all assembled in this room at my Investiture and I declared then my vision of co-operation and mutual respect amongst the leaders in this Province. I have had in the last few months, enormous support from the Deputy and Assistant Provincial Grand Masters; they have worked tirelessly and here continue to do so. It is not a “sinecure” Brethren. They give much time, in particular through the ‘Closed Season’ where we seem to be meeting endlessly with Committees and looking at another forest that our Provincial Grand Secretary has demolished and we do do an awful lot of work. It is not for their benefit and it is not for my benefit, it is for, first of all, the benefit of the Brethren of this Province, but equally for Freemasonry at large.

I now have pleasure in re-appointing my Assistant Provincial Grand Masters. They are a good team and we do have a nice relationship. They are a source of wisdom and experience, and serve this Province to the best of their ability; you can’t do more than that.

WBro Harold Woodward, PSGD  
WBro Philip Granville Mountford, PSGD  
WBro James Sutcliffe, PSGD  
WBro Derek Nelson Thornhill, PSGD  
WBro Martin Stuart Caller, PSGD  
WBro Stephen M Blank, PDepGDC and  
WBro Geoffrey W Litherland, PAGDC

*[The Assistant Provincial Grand Masters were then saluted].*

Brethren, the next item is in the hands of our Treasurer, WBro Robert Frankl.”  
Bro Robert Frankl, Provincial Grand Treasurer:

“RW Provincial Grand Master and Brethren, I have pleasure in presenting the accounts of Provincial Grand Lodge for the year ended 31 December 2007, copies of which have been distributed and posted on the Provincial website.

Our gross income of approximately £150,000 was broadly consistent with the preceding year. However, as a consequence of inflationary increases in our overheads, we did not enjoy a surplus as we had the preceding year and we more or less broke even with a small deficit of £7 for the year.

Our total reserves at the 31 December 2007 year end remained broadly the same as the preceding year in the amount of £45,000.

You will note from the agenda of today’s Meeting that I was to stand and propose an increase in Provincial Grand Lodge Dues. However, I am delighted to say that I shall remain firmly rooted to my seat and shall not be making such a proposition!

This means that for the second successive year there will be no increase in Provincial Grand Lodge dues.

I would like to have you think that the reason for the decision is my response to the credit crunch and the recession we are entering into, but the reality is that there has been a re-evaluation of the overhead structure of the Province which will avoid the necessity of any increase in Dues for the forthcoming year.

I express my thanks to that scary bunch of Brethren who call themselves “the auditors” for the courteous and professional manner they interrogated me and my books.

Last, but certainly not least, I express my sincere gratitude to the Provincial Secretariat and volunteers who provide me with so much support.

Following the Auditors report, I shall be pleased to receive any questions and have pleasure in putting the accounts for adoption.”

*RW Provincial Grand Master:*

“Thank you Brother Frankl, I now call on WBro Aubrey Rothburn to give a report on behalf of the Auditors.”

*[Brother Rothburn, the Senior Auditor, gave the Auditors’ Report]*

“Thank you Brother Rothburn”.

*After a proposition by WBro James Sutcliffe, Assistant Provincial Grand Master, which was seconded by WBro Derek Thornhill, Assistant Provincial Grand Master, the accounts were approved.*

*RW Provincial Grand Master:*

“Brother Frankl, on behalf of everyone in this Province, you have our very grateful thanks.”

“Brethren, the next item of business is to elect a Provincial Grand Treasurer for the financial year 2008 / 2009.”

*After a proposition by WBro Martin Caller, Assistant Provincial Grand Master, which was seconded by WBro Stephen Blank, Assistant Provincial Grand Master, WBro Robert Frankl, PAGDC was re-elected as Provincial Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year.*

*RW Provincial Grand Master:*

"The next item of business is to appoint the auditors.

WBros Aubrey Rothburn, Roland Adams and Alan Baxendale, are the current Auditors of the Provincial Grand Lodge Accounts and to them we offer our sincere thanks. All three have indicated their willingness to continue in office, if elected."

*After a proposition by WBro Geoffrey Litherland, Assistant Provincial Grand Master, which was seconded by WBro Harold Woodward, Assistant Provincial Grand Master, WBros Rothburn, Adams and Baxendale, were re-elected as Auditors for the ensuing year.*

*The RW Provincial Grand Master then announced that Item 7 of the Agenda was to be withdrawn.*

## **SPORTING EVENTS**

RW Provincial Grand Master: -

"During the summer months, a number of sporting and leisure activities have taken place. For many years, it has become customary for us at this meeting to present trophies to the winners of competitions held in the name of the Province.

**The East Lancashire Masonic Golfing Society** held their annual competition on 9 July 2008, at Whitefield Golf Club. The winner was Bro Chris Heywood, of Prince of Wales Lodge No 1012. Unfortunately, Brother Heywood is unable to be with us today, but I am delighted to say that his Worshipful Master, Brother Peter Carroll, who happens to be the Provincial Grand Secretary for the Province of Cheshire and is here today as one of our guests, will be delighted to collect the trophy on behalf of Brother Heywood.

I am very grateful for the generous donation of £500 to the ELMC by the organising Committee.

The Committee Secretary, Brother Alan Banks has asked me to remind all Brethren that this is a competition that is open to ALL members. Next year's event will be held on Tuesday, 14 July 2009 at Swinton Park Golf Club and new and existing competitors will be made very welcome.

Our thanks are due to the Chairman, Brother Malcolm Worsley, PSGD, PAPGM, the Secretary, Brother Alan Banks, the Treasurer Brother Garth Bogle and the team of organisers.

Brother Director of Ceremonies, please present Bro Carroll to me.

*[The RW Provincial Grand Master then offered his congratulations and presented the winning trophy.]*

**The East Lancashire Masonic Bowling Association** held their Annual Competition on 16 August 2008 at the Barrfield Bowling Club, Salford, and I place on record our thanks to Brother Brian Robinson and his helpers, for all their efforts and for the very generous donation of £350 to the ELMC. Next year's competition will be held on Saturday, 15 August 2009 at the Barrfield Bowling Club, Salford.

The winners of the Derby Bowling Competition were Brothers Tom Jardine and Garth Green of the Lodge of Friendship No 277.

They are accompanied today by their Worshipful Master, Bro Dr Michael Boden and I should be most grateful if the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies would escort them to the Pedestal.”

*The RW Provincial Grand Master then offered his congratulations and presented the winning trophy.*

## **DISTINGUISHED GUESTS**

*RW Provincial Grand Master:*

“Brethren, no Annual Meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge would be complete without our Distinguished Brethren being present. Most are from other Provinces, as you are aware, and, of course, there are some in their number from within our own Province. All I can do at this stage, Brethren, is to again apologise for the weather. It would appear that, despite our best endeavours with the Great Architect, he chooses to ignore us and he gives us rather indifferent weather, but none the less, that does not in any way dampen our pleasure and our enthusiasm in seeing you all here in such goodly numbers today. We are deeply grateful to you all. Just coming into the Hall, I said to the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies have we got a goodly number here? In a somewhat sort of cynical mood he looked in and said “Aye, it is not bad for a matinee!” It is a joy to see you and, of course, it is a joy to have the different delegations from our neighbouring Provinces. Brethren, as I introduce each Delegation I would be most grateful if each Brother would kindly stand until all of their colleagues have been introduced, and perhaps Brethren of East Lancashire would wait until I have completed the names of all the guests before we give them a good old-fashioned East Lancashire acclamation.

### **We welcome:**

#### **Cheshire**

RWBro Timothy RR Richards, Provincial Grand Master  
VWBro Alan Glazier, PGSwdB, Deputy Provincial Grand Master  
WBro Michael J Shaw, PSGD, Assistant Provincial Grand Master  
WBro Christopher J MacDonald, PAGDC, Assistant Provincial Grand Master  
WBro Peter E Carroll, PAGDC, Provincial Grand Secretary  
WBro Stewart R Gandy, PAGDC, Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies

#### **Yorkshire North & East Riding**

RWBro Richard J Anderson, Provincial Grand Master *[First time to East Lancashire]*  
VWBro Jeff Gillyon, PGSwdB, Deputy Provincial Grand Master  
WBro Brian Baker, PAGDC, Provincial Grand Secretary  
WBro John MA Davies, Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies

#### **Yorkshire West Riding**

RWBro John K Clayton, Provincial Grand Master  
VWBro Jack Pigott, PGSwdB, Deputy Provincial Grand Master  
WBro Colin Dent, PSGD, Assistant Provincial Grand Master  
WBro John Rushworth, PAGDC, Provincial Grand Secretary  
WBro Paul C Grafton, PAGDC, Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies

#### **Northumberland**

RWBro Peter Magnay, Provincial Grand Master *[First time to East Lancashire]*  
WBro Michael Daws, PSGD, Assistant Provincial Grand Master  
WBro Brian Rudd, PSGD, Assistant Provincial Grand Master

WBro Victor L Wood, PSGD, Assistant Provincial Grand Master

### **West Lancashire**

RWBro Peter J Hosker, Provincial Grand Master *[First time to East Lancashire, as PGM]*

VWBro Brian Gillbanks, PGSwdB, Deputy Provincial Grand Master

### **Cumberland and Westmorland**

RWBro Norman J Thompson, Provincial Grand Master

*[First time to East Lancashire, as PGM]*

WBro Peter J Lightburn, PAGDC, Deputy Provincial Grand Master

WBro Keith Young, PAGDC, Assistant Provincial Grand Master

WBro Malcolm Robson, PAGDC, Assistant Provincial Grand Master

WBro Charles A Floodgate, PAGDC, Provincial Grand Secretary

WBro William Phillips, PAGDC, Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies

WBro W Kenneth Wilson, PJGD, Provincial Grand Charity Steward

### **Shropshire**

VWBro Peter A Taylor, PGSwdB, Deputy Provincial Grand Master

### **Isle of Man**

VWBro Charles W Craine, PGSwdB, Deputy Provincial Grand Master

### **North Wales**

WBro Gerald JC Edwards, PSGD, Assistant Provincial Grand Master

WBro Peter J Sorahan, PAGDC, Provincial Grand Secretary

And from the **Provincial Grand Lodge of Down [IC]**,

RWBro Roger Matthews, the Provincial Assistant Grand Master and

WBro Barry Brewster, the Provincial Grand Almoner.

And last but not least by any means, Brethren you may have heard of the University Scheme wherein we seek to attract Undergraduates at University level to come and join us. This assists them to provide a sound base, to move on with their professional life and for them to retain their interests in Masonry. Old Mancunians Lodge in this Province are doing so much for the benefit of these young Brethren. We are delighted to welcome today:

WBro C Edward Lord, *JP*, LGR, the Deputy Chairman of the very successful University Scheme.

Brethren, please now offer our Distinguished Guests a hearty East Lancashire welcome.

*[Applause]*

And now, Brethren, from our own Province, we welcome:-

Past Deputy Provincial Grand Master,

VWBro Nolan Morrison, PGSwdB

The Deputy Grand Superintendent in the Royal Arch,

EComp Allan Bennion, PGSwdB

Together with the Past Deputy Grand Superintendents,

EComp Barry Wallwork, PGSwdB and EComp Victor Hodgson, PGSwdB.

Within the Mark Order we welcome the Provincial Grand Master, WBro Keith Schofield, PAGDC and the Past Provincial Grand Master in the Mark Degree, WBro Fred Kemp, PJGD.

From the Order of the Knights Templar, the Provincial Prior, WBro David Gallear, PProvSGW

From the Antient and Accepted Rite the Inspector General for the North and South East Lancashire District, WBro Barry Wallwork, PSGD, and from the North East Lancashire District, WBro David B Hawkins, PProvSGW, together with the Past Inspector General of the North East Lancashire District, Bro Kelvin Matterson, PJGD.

From the Order of the Red Cross of Constantine, Division of East Lancashire, the Intendent-General, WBro Dr Nigel Bramley-Haworth, PGSwdB and the Past Intendent-General, WBro Colin Williams, PJGD.

From the Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees, the Lancashire District Grand Prefect, WBro Alexander McLaren, PProvDepGReg.

From the Order of the Secret Monitor, the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler, WBro Howard Nuttall, PProvSGW, and the Past Provincial Grand Ruler of the Order of the Secret Monitor, WBro Geoffrey Litherland, PAGDC.”

[Applause].

#### **REPORT BY THE PROVINCIAL GRAND SECRETARY**

“RW Provincial Grand Master, The Assistant Provincial Grand Masters, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, your predecessor and you have officiated at a number of important events during the last year.

Namely,

#### **Personal 70ths**

A special mention should be made of the three Brethren who have achieved 70 years in Freemasonry, they are:-

WBro Sir Neil Westbrook  
WBro John Tinker and  
WBro Thomas Broome

The following Brethren celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Freemasonry:-

WBro Eric Riley,  
WBro James Glass,  
WBro Fred Thornton, and

39 Brethren who have achieved 50 years in Freemasonry.

WBro Alan Liddle	Ben Brierley Lodge No 3317	9 December 2007
WBro Henry Donn	Scroll Lodge No 7395	17 December 2007
WBro Raymond Haffner	Calder Lodge No 4564	18 December 2007
WBro Roger Crompton	Egerton Lodge No 1392	27 December 2007
WBro Leslie Kay	Zion Menorah Lodge No 1798	8 January 2008
WBro Herbert Taylor	Lodge of Commerce No 215	9 January 2008
WBro Dennis Holt	Corinthian Lodge No 3767	14 January 2008
WBro Stanley R Jenner	Fellowship Lodge No 3650	16 January 2008

WBro J Geoffrey Sagar	Huntroyd Lodge No 6385	22 January 2008
WBro John Holmes	Portico Lodge No 6070	23 January 2008
WBro Harry Brierley	Keystone Lodge No 363	20 February 2008
WBro Reginald Vernon	Langley Lodge No 3989	6 March 2008
WBro John S Barrett	Noyna Lodge No 6447	10 March 2008
WBro James F Garvey	St Luke's With Old Mas Lodge 4294	18 March 2008
WBro Leslie Auger	Arthur Sullivan Lodge No 2146	19 March 2008
WBro Norman Lowe	Prince Edwin Lodge No 128	9 April 2008
WBro Charles FC Hughes	Antiquity Lodge No 146	9 April 2008
WBro Donald Carter	Pendle Lodge No 4703	10 April 2008
WBro James Turner	Brun Lodge No 5118	18 April 2008
WBro Joseph Holgate	Goodwill Lodge No 4358	19 April 2008
WBro Godfrey Somech	Peace Lodge No 3792	23 April 2008
WBro Colin Haworth	Tottington Lodge No 7537	30 April 2008
WBro Alfred M Boardman	Moorland Lodge No 5458	1 May 2008
WBro William A Potts	Lodge of New Hope No 6576	2 May 2008
WBro Robert Lamb	Rhyddings Lodge No 5205	7 May 2008
WBro Donald H Newton	Newavon Lodge No 4131	13 May 2008
WBro Alan Garvey	Prince Edwin Lodge No 128	14 May 2008
WBro Terence Anderton	Felicity Lodge No 4365	22 May 2008
WBro David Banks	Morning Star Lodge No 4136	1 September 2008
WBro Arthur Tyler	Lodge of Benevolence No 226	2 September 2008
WBro George Walker	Crompton Lodge No 5227	23 September 2008
WBro Kenneth Brooks	St David's Lodge No 1147	9 October 2008
Bro Sydney Smith	Ark Lodge No 6594	13 October 2008
Bro Noel Barber	Dene Head Lodge No 7594	3 November 2008
WBro Victor Wardman	Verity Lodge No 3940	4 November 2008
WBro William G Brown	Semper Fidelis Lodge No 3299	5 November 2008
WBro Alan Mansley	Milton Lodge No 1144	13 November 2008
WBro Richard Hart	Arthur Sullivan Lodge No 2156	19 November 2008

A further 23 visits have been made, which include

The 275<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Lodge of Relief No 42 at Bury

7 Centenary Meetings

3 Banner Dedications

1 Joint Golden Jubilee / Banner Dedication

5 Installations

2 Visits to the Lodges' of retiring APGM's

A New Initiates evening

A Hosted Meeting

The Installation of a new APGM and, of course, your Installation on 18 June 2008.

### **Amalgamations**

We have now held 27 amalgamations (with 36 Lodges erased to create those amalgamations). A further 2 Lodges are awaiting erasure in December and this will lead to a further two amalgamations early in the New Year.

A total of 70 Lodges have been erased and we are awaiting the erasure of a further 6 in December, with 13 more to be erased in the New Year. This will leave us with 291 Lodges.

## **Membership**

The following information relates to the calendar year 2007.

The year commenced with a membership of 8642 [represented by 6971 individual members] and ended with a membership of 8503 [6827 individual members], which included 178 Initiations.

The year ended with a net reduction in memberships of 140, which is 2 % and a net reduction in individual members of 144, which is 1.6%. A much welcome drop from that of 5% from the previous year.

Thank you, Sir.”

## **EAST LANCASHIRE MASONIC CHARITY**

*A collection on behalf of the ELMC was then taken.*

## **ADDRESS OF THE RW PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER**

*RW Provincial Grand Master:*

“Brethren as if you have not heard enough from me, it is now my pleasure and privilege, it says here, to address you. But, before I begin, I must say that I don't want to lengthen proceedings too long because I do know there are many keen and anxious Brethren who want to get on with the business of the afternoon. First of all can I welcome all of you? It is very uplifting to see so many in this beautiful venue here today, on this, not a very welcoming day in terms of the weather. Perhaps a reflection of how we feel as Freemasons, in particular in relation to our Brethren who are today going to be honoured in Provincial Grand Lodge. It is their special day, a day on which their contributions to our Order are acknowledged, celebrated and hopefully they are re-invigorated for the future.

Brethren, five months have now passed since my Investiture on June 18<sup>th</sup>. During this period, much consideration has taken place as to how best to equip each member so that he better understands what it means to be a Freemason, thus enabling him to enjoy and practice his Freemasonry with confidence within the wider community.

A new broom must not always sweep clean but, perhaps, tidy up that which it has already found and to remove anything that might detract from our effectiveness. Brethren we must, consolidate that which has already been achieved

Many of the initiatives introduced by my predecessor, who I am glad to tell you is in good health at this present time, will continue because I and many others, agreed and supported them as a way forward for the Province. My responsibility is to continue that good work and, with your co-operation and support, reinforce and enhance that which has already been achieved.

Specifically, let us look at some examples of what we are already undertaking in this Province for the good of our Brethren, their families and our communities.

## **Mentoring**

This was introduced a year ago and we are now beginning to appreciate the effect of the presentations made throughout the Province by the Education Committee and the District Mentors. Mentoring should affect every member of the Lodge. The newest member of a Lodge needs guidance, loving care and help. In equal measure, the Past Master, suddenly without a Lodge Office, may feel vulnerable and neglected. Every Lodge member may require the assistance of the Lodge Mentor from time to time. Mentoring should be all-embracing and all-inclusive; relevant to every member of the Lodge. It is also an on-going and long-term

process where instant results should not be expected. Patience and understanding are not only required, but are essential for the process to be successful.

In previous years, we have acknowledged the importance of the Lodge Charity Stewards and Lodge Almoners by the delivery of an Address to both these Officers at Lodge Installations. This practice will continue throughout 2009, with an Address to the Lodge Mentor in which the hopes and aspirations of my team and I, will be conveyed by the Representative, to the Lodge Brethren.

### **Communication**

The great importance that we all attach to the communication process was highlighted earlier this year with the appointment of Bro Chad Northcott as Chairman of the Communications Committee. He was given a wide ranging role to oversee every aspect of our communication processes. It is important for us all to understand that if we, as a Province, are to work effectively, then we require excellent channels of communication, both between ourselves and with the outside world. The problem, Brethren, is that communication means so many different things to different people. For some Brethren it means the most up-to-date IT equipment whereas for others the beautifully worded / hand written letters mean so much more. We have to embrace all types of communication processes and this means we need to develop many different ways to communicate a message, which is often the same. For some, the Provincial website provides everything necessary, whereas for others, an interesting and readable Provincial magazine or District newsletter is what is required.

What is absolutely essential in all of these processes is that they be presented to us, in whatever form, as professionally and attractively as possible. If this is very important to us, as Brethren within this Province, it is even more important when we use those skills communicating with those who are not, or not yet, privileged to belong to our fraternity.

### **Community Activities**

One of the great success stories that we have experienced in this Province recently, has been the huge impact of the Giving Evenings, which are now held in every part of East Lancashire. As such, they have proved to be excellent examples of positive communication with the members of our local communities. The idea commenced here in Blackburn and now, on a regular basis, we see hundreds of thousands of pounds given to non-Masonic charities and groups representing good causes throughout the Province every year. You are all to be applauded for your contributions that make such generosity possible.

But communication with our localities is not just about giving money to good causes. It is also concerned with practical help and assistance that we, as Masons, can give. We have seen some excellent examples of community action throughout the Province where Brethren, and their families, have worked together, with representatives of the community to provide a new facility for the community. The Coalshaw Green Project in the Oldham District and the new garden at Newfield School, here in Blackburn, are good examples of how a combination of community funding and practical contributions by Brethren can produce wonderful results.

Brethren, I want you all to know how grateful both the Provincial Executive and I are to you all for your magnificent efforts and support.

These thanks extend even further and I must praise the way so many of you now support our East Lancashire Masonic Charity. The re-launch of our Provincial Charity was never going to be easy and Bro Derek Thornhill and his team did so much to help in this respect. Regular pledged contributions are now being made by many of you to ELMC. Thank you for your commitment to this aspect of Freemasonry. My Deputy and I have always felt that the progress of this charity was always going to be slow but steady and we have been proved correct in that opinion. Again, the problem that we all now face is the financial commitment

we all need to make in pursuit of our hobby of Freemasonry and it is up to each individual to work out what that commitment means to him and his family. All that I can ask you, dear Brethren, is to at least consider what you can afford to give and, without detriment to yourselves or connections, to give with a cheerful and thankful heart. Whilst, in the past, the message given by the Provincial Grand Master has been considered to be an important part of our Provincial Grand Lodge meeting, I prefer now to concentrate on what I feel to be the most important aspect of today's proceedings. Simply put, Brethren, it is those whom I am about to appoint and promote who are the really important people here today because, for many of you, this will be the most important day, to date, in your Masonic experience and we all rejoice in your good fortune.

Please enjoy the honour with which you are soon to be conferred. Consider it as a reward for your past service to your Lodge and District, and think of it as yet a further stepping stone on a path leading to new levels of commitment to and enjoyment in, our Order, with your fellow Masons, within your Lodge, your District and our Province. Above all, please share your pleasure with the Brethren of your Lodges when you all next meet and be sure to pass on my best wishes to everyone when you so meet.

To those of you, who have come to support these Brethren, please accept my thanks. Be proud for them and be there to assist them in their new responsibilities.

Brethren, this Annual Provincial meeting does not just happen; it requires meticulous planning and attention to detail if it is to be an impressive, memorable occasion. On your behalf, may I thank the Provincial Grand Secretary, Bro Alan Garnett and his Secretariat for all they do on our behalf on a daily basis. To Bro Roger Norris and Susan O'Neill and their team we extend our gratitude for today's arrangements. For our wonderful ceremonial presentation, we have to congratulate Bro Norman Cope, the Provincial DC and his extended team, for their diligence and patience.

A big thank you to our medical team led by Bro Mike Johnson.

On your entry to this superb building today you were guided by stewards from the Northern Districts and from the Provincial Grand Stewards' lodge No 8408, whilst Brothers Eddie Tyler and Brian Bennion with their Charity Stewards have efficiently taken your Alms contributions. To Bro John Hesketh and his team for the sound system. Finally, stationed outside this main hall, guarding and securing our privacy are our Security Brethren, led by Bro Arthur Renshaw.

A very special thank-you to all of them.

Brethren you know my sentiments about Masonry, never be afraid or ashamed to declare the fact that you are a Freemason. Never ever be ashamed to declare your love for your Brother, embrace all men, look after your Brethren. God bless you all.

Brethren, thank you for listening so patiently."

*[Applause]*

*RW Provincial Grand Master:*

"Brethren, I will now continue with the Investiture of the Acting Officers, Past Ranks and promotions. Provincial Grand Secretary will you please read the names of those to be honoured?"

## INVESTITURE

ProvSGW	Ian Paul, PProvGSwdB.....	3264
ProvJGW	John Hudson, PProvGSuptWks.....	4703
ProvGChap	Rev'd David Halford.....	3317
ProvGTreas	Robert Frankl, PAGDC.....	1798
ProvGReg	John Pearson.....	9101
ProvGSec	Alan Garnett, PJGD.....	1147
ProvGDC	Norman Cope, PAGDC.....	5118
ProvGSwdB	Peter Douthwaite.....	268
ProvGSuptWks	Frank Smith, ProvGPurs.....	298
ProvDepGChap	The Rev'd John Winstanley.....	1147
ProvDepGReg	David Norbury.....	266
ProvDepGSec	Kevin Horne, PProvJGW.....	5118
ProvDepGDC	David Bristol.....	6538
ProvDepGDC	Nigel Pickering.....	8825
ProvDepGDC	Martin Roche.....	1144
ProvGAlm	Brian Horne, JP, PAGDC.....	6768
ProvGChStwd	David Geldard, MBE, PProvJGW.....	5573
ProvSGD	Stephen Bissett.....	2363
ProvSGD	Brian Elcoat.....	221
ProvSGD	Brian Grove.....	8798
ProvSGD	David Kelly.....	816
ProvJGD	John Harrop.....	5120
ProvJGD	Anthony Hill.....	8838
ProvJGD	Norman Spelzini.....	5309
ProvJGD	William Wootton.....	992
ProvAGChap	The Rev'd Richard Hawkins.....	8561
ProvAGChap	Michael Landriau, PProvGSwdB.....	7560
ProvAGReg	Gordon McMillan.....	8623
ProvAGDC	Christopher Bibby.....	581
ProvAGDC	Norman Cooke.....	298
ProvAGDC	Mark Harris.....	5332
ProvAGDC	Glynn Hughes.....	5713
ProvAGDC	Philip Preston.....	6098
ProvAGDC	Bernard Spencer.....	346
ProvAGSwdB	David Hawkins.....	4402
ProvAGSuptWks	Robert Sharples, PProvSGD.....	1083
ProvGOrg	Paul Bowen.....	3867
ProvGStB	Ian Hargreaves.....	934
ProvGStB	Andrew Sinclair.....	757
ProvGPurs	Adrian Hunter, PProvDepGSwdB.....	1633
ProvAGPurs	Brian Robinson, PProvJGW.....	7968
ProvGStwd	Robert Allan.....	6339
ProvGStwd	David Bannister.....	8825
ProvGStwd	James Beecroft.....	7885
ProvGStwd	Steven Boyle.....	210
ProvGStwd	Stephen Carman.....	5218
ProvGStwd	Stephen Cowen.....	1773
ProvGStwd	Peter Hegarty.....	7968
ProvGStwd	David Ireson.....	4294
ProvGStwd	Peter Jones.....	348
ProvGStwd	Dominic O'Grady.....	5651
ProvGStwd	Kevin Reaney.....	221
ProvGStwd	David Rigby.....	6522

ProvGStwd	Howard Rothburn.....	6594
ProvGStwd	Paul Smillie.....	8948
ProvGStwd	Trevor Thomas.....	5140
ProvGTyler	Ian Ronson, PProvGSuptWks.....	3326

## PROMOTIONS

### PAST PROVINCIAL SENIOR GRAND WARDEN

James Allonby, PProvDepGSuptWks.....	219
William Anderson, PProvGSwdB.....	999
Fred Beadsworth, PProvJGW.....	277
James Britton, PProvJGW.....	4632
Keith Clayton, PProvJGW.....	8803
Jackson Dixon, PProvJGW.....	5309
David Gallear, PProvJGW.....	1055
Peter Garnett, PProvGSuptWks.....	8838
Graham Inskip, PProvGSwdB.....	3005
Sidney Jenkinson, PProvJGW.....	4819
Dr Eric Marks, PProvJGW.....	1798
Alex McLaren, PProvDepGReg.....	3342
Brian Morant, PProvJGW.....	5573
Alan Roberts, PProvJGW.....	1458
Ian Ronson, PProvGSuptWks, ProvGTyler.....	3326
Sidney Santhouse, PProvGSuptWks.....	9604
Peter Wills, PProvJGW.....	348

### PAST PROVINCIAL JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN

Roland Anstee, PProvGSuptWks.....	4641
Francis Baxendale, PProvGSwdB.....	8838
David Biggs, PProvGSwdB.....	7560
Harold Corney, PProvGSuptWks.....	5651
Ivan Goldberg, PProvGSwdB.....	8855
Harry Grundy, PProvGSwdB.....	3716
Stephen Holt, PProvGSwdB.....	1129
Ian Kenworthy, PProvGSuptWks.....	3529
Kenneth Lawson, PProvGSwdB.....	2529
Barry Leech, PProvSGD.....	7869
John Palmer, PProvGSuptWks.....	4964
Stewart Potter, PProvDepGSwdB.....	678
Geoffrey Smith, PProvGSuptWks.....	3855
Alex Viner, PProvDepGSuptWks.....	9659
Rodney Ward, PProvGSuptWks.....	3248
Frederick Whittingham, PProvGSuptWks.....	8763

### PAST PROVINCIAL GRAND SWORD BEARER

Ronald Howell, PProvDepGSwdB.....	219
Howard Munton, PProvDepGSwdB.....	78

### PAST PROVINCIAL GRAND SUPERINTENDENT OF WORKS

John Burrows, PProvJGD.....	1009
John Crawford, PProvDepGSuptWks.....	7285
George Dixon, PProvDepGSwdB.....	286
Cliff Jewell, PProvDepGSwdB.....	5504
James Stahler, PProvSGD.....	4964

## **PAST PROVINCIAL DEPUTY GRAND REGISTRAR**

David Acton, PProvAGDC.....	6721
Simon Archer, PProvSGD.....	5119
Brian Armistead, PProvJGD.....	226
Jack Aston, PProvJGD.....	3787
Ron Barham, PProvSGD.....	7933
Glyn Barlow, PProvSGD.....	1634
Eric Bell, PProvJGD.....	325
Albert Boddy, PProvJGD.....	8816
Eric Bond, PProvSGD.....	8623
Paul Bowen, PProvGOrg.....	3248
Norman Bower, PProvDepGSwdB.....	6594
Tony Brearley, PProvSGD.....	6721
Clive Carroll, PProvSGD.....	462
Peter Clegg, PProvJGD.....	54
David Cook, PProvSGD.....	3837
Thomas Corbally, PProvSGD.....	757
David Cowen, PProvSGD.....	5813
Brian Crossley, PProvJGD.....	633
Peter Cryer, PProvAGSwdB.....	226
Mark Davis, PProvSGD.....	992
Philip Dodson, PProvJGD.....	4819
Stephen Dowber, PProvSGD.....	1519
Colin Farrow, PProvJGD.....	5120
Eddie Glass, PProvSGD.....	5041
Philip Hall, PProvAGSwdB.....	277
Jack Harrison, PProvJGD.....	2917
Keith Hatton, PProvSGD.....	152
Ashley Hayman, PProvSGD.....	8855
Leslie Hutchinson, PProvAGDC.....	4632
Brian Ince, PProvDepGSuptWks.....	4524
Eric Ivill, PProvSGD.....	8816
Ivan Jackson, PProvSGD.....	219
David Leach, PProvSGD.....	1218
Adrian Linney, PProvSGD.....	8249
Thomas McDonald, PProvSGD.....	5505
Iain Reid, PProvSGD.....	4111
David Russell, PProvSGD.....	274
Brian Southworth, PProvJGD.....	6577
Tony Spieler, PProvSGD.....	6594
John Stevens, PProvSGD.....	1147
Raymond Tattersall, PProvSGD.....	5917
Gerald Taylor, PProvJGD.....	6164
George Thompson, PProvJGD.....	6183
Alan Towers, PProvJGD.....	4564
Christopher Welton, PProvJGD.....	1633
Fred Whittaker, PProvJGD.....	128
Raymond Wight, PProvJGD.....	274
Graeme Wilkinson, PProvSGD.....	1064
Peter Yarwood, PProvSGD.....	3393

## **PAST PROVINCIAL SENIOR GRAND DEACON**

Roland Adams, PProvGStwd.....	62
Michael Ashurst, PProvGStwd.....	852
Geoffrey Baillie, PProvGStwd.....	9604

Edwin Baines, ProvAGDC.....	8561
Alan Baxendale, PProvAGDC .....	5412
Charles Boardman, PProvJGD .....	6232
Stuart Butterworth, PProvGStwd .....	3282
Frank Craig, ProvAGDC.....	2917
Leslie Dewsnap, PProvAGSwdB.....	8461
Ian Dugdale, PProvGStwd .....	54
Charles Etherington, PProvAGDC.....	852
William Fishwick, PProvGStwd .....	3322
Ian Goldman, PProvAGDC.....	7395
Kenneth Grundy, PProvJGD .....	8816
Jack Halsall, PProvJGD .....	381
Brian Harrison, ProvJGD.....	6603
Kai Hughes, PProvGStwd .....	5677
Stephen Jansen, PProvGStwd.....	4703
John Mitchell, PProvAGDC .....	126
Elliot Moss, PProvGStwd .....	7395
Ian Nicholson, PProvAGDC .....	4631
Alan Potts, PProvAGDC.....	7252
Thomas Ryan, PProvGStwd .....	678
John Schofield, ProvGStB.....	6603
Paul Sellers, ProvGStwd.....	4661
Stephen Smith, PProvAGDC.....	5119
Douglas Stott, PProvAGDC.....	8825
Paul Thornton, ProvGStwd.....	5713
Peter Tomlinson, ProvAGDC .....	1129
John Walker, PProvAGDC .....	78
Charles Ward, PProvGStwd.....	8763
Mike Webb, PProvAGDC .....	269
Peter Whitnall, PProvGStwd .....	191
Jim Wilkins, PProvAGDC .....	344
Gary Williams, PProvAGDC.....	4402

**PAST PROVINCIAL JUNIOR GRAND DEACON**

Kenneth Aspden, PProvAGDC.....	4631
John Bentley, PProvAGDC .....	678
Roger Blaskey, PProvAGDC.....	8855
Edward Everitt, PProvGStB.....	7594
Brian Hales, PProvAGDC .....	2185
David Johnson, PProvAGDC .....	8528
Eric Johnson, PProvAGDC .....	6577
Harold Joy, PProvAGDC.....	4482
Michael Lawson, PProvAGSuptWks .....	116
John Moore, PProvAGDC .....	852
Keith Pearson, PProvAGSwdB .....	7958
David Rubinstein, PProvAGSwdB.....	7395
Barry Stephenson, PProvAGDC.....	4524
David Tattersall, PProvGStwd.....	5120

**PAST PROVINCIAL ASSISTANT GRAND DIRECTOR OF CEREMONIES**

Barry Goodwin, PProvGStB .....	210
Albert Hill, PProvAGSuptWks.....	4964
Norman Littlewood, PProvAGSuptWks .....	1030

**APPOINTMENTS****PAST PROVINCIAL JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN**

Edgar Horne ..... 6594

**PAST PROVINCIAL SENIOR GRAND DEACON**

Charles Arnold ..... 9659  
Jack Ball ..... 4207  
Victor Brown ..... 274  
Terence Carter ..... 3989  
John Dutchman-Smith ..... 9659  
Peter Marsh ..... 286  
Daniel Parker ..... 8249  
John Ratcliffe ..... 1775  
Graham Rawlinson ..... 1129  
John Sarginson ..... 42  
Dennis Wilson ..... 4848  
Trevor Wood ..... 9092  
David Wright ..... 226

**PAST PROVINCIAL JUNIOR GRAND DEACON**

Robert Asbridge ..... 3479  
Jack Best ..... 221  
Carl Buckley ..... 757  
Keith Buckley ..... 854  
Michael Carr ..... 1011  
Dennis Casement ..... 5969  
Ian Cooper ..... 219  
Terence Cox ..... 2917  
Anthony Finley ..... 1773  
David Heaney ..... 8623  
Paul Holmes ..... 226  
Peter Jolley ..... 6522  
Peter Kaye ..... 8855  
Allan Kenyon ..... 78  
Graham Layzell ..... 6098  
Keith Middleton ..... 6531  
David Pawson ..... 298  
Richard Riley ..... 8763  
Allan Stanistreet ..... 163  
Tony Talbot ..... 266  
Norman Taylor ..... 4964  
Richard Warke ..... 3716

**PAST PROVINCIAL ASSISTANT GRAND REGISTRAR**

Bernard Scully ..... 8542

**PAST PROVINCIAL ASSISTANT GRAND DIRECTOR OF CEREMONIES**

Martin Ashton ..... 8693  
Peter Barton-Price ..... 3282  
Ian Birch ..... 6232  
Clifford Blakemore ..... 3299  
Peter Bramley ..... 1458  
Peter Brown ..... 9174  
David Campbell ..... 934  
Julian Clarke ..... 44

Robert Crowther.....	363
Colin Downie.....	5332
Peter Dugdale.....	4952
William Edisbury.....	6164
Robert Elsdon.....	4365
William Emery.....	5234
Gordon Fletcher.....	5206
Colin Freer.....	5573
Michael Goldsmith.....	7968
Stewart Holmes.....	9604
Ronald Horrocks.....	1697
Robert Horwich.....	1798
Eric Howarth.....	42
Glyn Jones.....	42
William Jordan.....	325
Leslie Kay.....	8304
Les Knight.....	1633
Keith Maguire.....	2905
Paul Marriott.....	5969
Tony Mason.....	1798
David Norton.....	9402
Peter O'Neill.....	4482
Michael O'Toole.....	2363
Harry Pollitt.....	4207
David Rainford.....	146
Chris Riding.....	1519
David Riley.....	3787
Norman Rogerson.....	3478
Gordon Rosbotham.....	1723
Terence Ryan.....	1030
Bernard Sagar.....	126
Richard Shiel.....	8816
Clifford Taylor.....	286
Leslie Taylor-Duff.....	2322
Peter Thompson.....	3329
Roger Tozer.....	1459
William Walker.....	8896
Campbell Wallace.....	2279
Russel Weisberg.....	7395

**PAST PROVINCIAL ASSISTANT GRAND SWORD BEARER**

Stuart Cain.....	4661
Gregory Goldston.....	1773
Derek Greenwood.....	430
John Heap.....	5040
Sean O'Hare.....	633

**PAST PROVINCIAL GRAND STANDARD BEARER**

Alan Bennett.....	7657
Derek Burrows.....	1064
Robert Taylerson.....	3342
Peter Weltman.....	8947

**PAST PROVINCIAL ASSISTANT GRAND STANDARD BEARER**

Keith Emmett ..... 6183

Sir, that concludes your Investiture List of 274 Brethren.”

**REPORT OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND STEWARDS**

The Provincial Grand Secretary announced that the total attendance was 1246.  
The collection, for the ELMC, which included the anticipated tax reclaim, was £5556.45.

No Brother having anything further to bring forward, Provincial Grand Lodge was closed in form and with Solemn Prayer.

The Proceedings concluded with the singing of the first verse of the National Anthem.

WBro H Alan J Garnett, PJGD  
Provincial Grand Secretary  
Freemasons' Hall  
Bridge Street  
Manchester  
M3 3BT.