



MAY 2025

I was very proud...



To join Steve Lee and six other Brethren from Wiltshire in the Grand Temple at Freemasons' Hall to celebrate and congratulate them on receiving a Grand Rank promotion and first appointments from the Pro Grand Master. Sadly, there are some in our ranks who are moved to make critical and unkind comments, designed to hurt the recipients of honours and cast doubt on the decision of the MW Grand Master's judgement. Brethren, let me be clear that I will not stand idly by when such comments are reported back to me; I will challenge those who seek to make mischief and I will invoke disciplinary procedures when justified.

Last month I asked Members to sign up to Portal. I am repeating this request and would advise that it is easy to use and it is a real benefit to your Lodge Secretary. Most importantly it puts you the member in control of your personal data. It also allows you to view (when permitted) contact details for the members of each of the Lodges and Chapters to which you subscribe.

This year we will be celebrating the 250th anniversary of Wiltshire Freemasonry with a very special anniversary dinner on Saturday 18th October at Bowood Hotel and Country Club. The evening will be a fine dining experience with musical input from an extremely talented team of singers including Harry Apps who recently played Marius in Les Miserables in the 2019 UK and Ireland tour, and again at the Sondheim Theatre in 2020. It promises to be a wonderful evening and I am looking forward to welcoming you to Bowood, a venue well known for the quality of its cuisine and service. Places are limited to 120 and early booking is recommended.

I am delighted to advise that bookings for the third annual Carols at Christmas service at Marlborough College have reached 200 - and it's only May. This event has proved to be a 'hit' with so many of our Brethren and family members. Please do scan the QR code and let the team know you intend to attend. It may be seven months away but I for one am looking forward to those simply superb mince pies.

Last month I mentioned the PSA testing in Swindon being organised by The Loganberry Trust. I attended as did 73 men and the results were quite striking. Out of 74 men tested, 10 had elevated PSA levels and were recommended to discuss the results with their GP. We always hope the second test will allay any fears and that no further action is required, but it does suggest that this simple and inexpensive test is well worth doing. The team is in Salisbury on Saturday 10th May, so if you're not attending the Royal Arch Convocation at Melksham on the tenth, I recommend you book a PSA test at Salisbury (see page 8).

Another milestone in the history of Wiltshire Freemasonry will see Highworth Lodge No.9009 move to the Swindon Masonic Centre in September. Last year St Aldhelm Lodge No.2888 made a similar move, in their case to Chippenham; as I observed at the time, the world didn't come to an end and the Lodge is thriving in its new home. I trust the Members of Highworth Lodge and their newly Installed Master Chris Biggs will enjoy their new home and that in twelve months time they will look back and acknowledge their move to have been a great success.

Finally, a huge thank you to the Members of Vastern Lodge No.8977 and in particular Mike Bracken who delivered soft toys to the Children's Ward at Swindon's Great Western Hospital. I fully support the giving of something tangible and needed as opposed to a cheque. I am equally grateful to the Wiltshire 'Stonecutters' who had a 'ride out' in support of the Wiltshire 2028 Festival and in remembrance of Brethren that have passed to the Grand Lodge above. Thank you so much.



MAY 2025

Grand Lodge Appointments 2025...



Steve Lee **PJGD, APrGM**

At the April 30th Investiture meeting held in the Grand Temple of Freemasons Hall six Wiltshire Members received their first appointment to Grand Officer. Leading the team was Bro Steve Lee the Assistant Provincial Grand Master who was honoured with the Grand Rank of Past Junior Grand Deacon.

Joining Steve to receive the collar and jewel from the Pro Grand Master were Rob Evans, and Barry Jordan-Davis both of whom were appointed Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies.



Robert Evans **PAGDC**



Barry Jordan-Davis **PAGDC**

A trio of Past Assistant Grand Standard Bearers



Alan Colman **PAGStB**



Ian Lever **PAGStB**



Richard Wright **PAGStB**



MAY 2025

Supporting the Wiltshire 2028 Festival...

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, Three degrees Dry Gin comprises three flavours. Alongside a traditional Dry Gin there will be Orange Gin, and Pink Gin. Three Degrees Gin is only £40 a bottle and all profit will be given to the Wiltshire 2028 Festival. Contact Mark Newman to pre-order, click on image or tinyurl.com/ThreeDegGin

The advertisement is framed by two classical columns. At the top, a scroll reads "Wiltshire Freemasons Three Degrees Dry Gin". Below this, the text "Coming Soon" is written in a large, stylized font. In the center, three bottles of gin are displayed: a pink bottle, a yellow bottle, and a clear bottle. Each bottle has a label with the Wiltshire Freemasons logo and the text "Three Degrees Dry Gin". A "WORLD GIN AWARDS" logo is visible in the top right corner of the bottle display area. At the bottom, another scroll reads "Abv 41%" on the left, the Wiltshire Freemasons crest in the center, and "Vol: 70cl" on the right.



Visiting overseas...

Bros Richard Wright and John Davies of Moonraker Lodge No.8747 travelled to Germany and Richard's Mother Lodge Saxony Lodge No.842 that meets in Celle, Lower Saxony.

Bro Dave Simmons, a lifelong friend of Richard's was Installed as Master of the Lodge and Richard was given the honour of giving the address to the Master. As the Provincial Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies Richard will be well rehearsed with this beautiful piece of ritual but it's always different when you have to undertake the work yourself. Bro Michael Bracken of Vastern Lodge No.8977 was also a guest on the evening.



Have you booked your place?

This event has certainly captured the attention of many of our Members. Have you booked your place for what will be a truly memorable evening with fine food, superb music and great company.



LIVE MUSIC FROM THE SHOWS

HARRY APPS
Recently starred in the West End
as Marius - in Les Miserables

CHRIS WALSH
MATILDA WALE
CHARLOTTE JOHNSON

TICKET £65 PER PERSON



250th

Anniversary Celebration

OCTOBER **18th** AT 7.30 PM

FINE DINING | SUPERB MUSIC | GREAT COMPANY



BOWOOD HOTEL & COUNTRY CLUB

SCAN ME AND BOOK TODAY





Keep in touch...

WhatsApp offers a range of benefits that make it a popular choice for personal communication. One of its primary advantages is its ease of use and accessibility, allowing users to send messages, make voice and video calls, and share multimedia content without incurring additional charges, as long as they have an internet connection. This makes it an economical option for staying connected. Additionally, WhatsApp supports group chats, which facilitate easy collaboration and social interaction among friends, family, and colleagues. The app's end-to-end encryption ensures that messages are secure and private, providing peace of mind for users concerned about their data security. Furthermore, WhatsApp's integration with various business tools allows the Province to engage with Members more effectively, providing instant push through messaging. Overall, WhatsApp's user-friendly interface, and security features make it a versatile and reliable communication platform.



Wiltshire Freemasons

WILTSHIRE
WhatsApp
 keeps you
 informed.

It's not a chat site - its purpose is to keep Members informed of events, meetings, and items of interest.

sign up today and discover more



Scan the QR code with
 your mobile to connect
 with the Wiltshire Freemasons
 WhatsApp group.



SIGN UP TODAY TO BE A PART OF THIS EXCITING PROJECT



Discover More...

The Royal Arch welcomes enquiries from Master Masons wishing to Discover More about the Masonic journey they have entered upon.

Having been Raised to the sublime Degree of a Master Mason a Brother is able to search for and discover that which was lost which by the Master's instruction and our own industry we hope to find.

You are invited to scan the QR Code and Discover More.



#WiltshireRoyalArch
Discover More Booklet

Q-Code Download



 **One Journey - One Organisation**
Change to Reg.66 Effective November 2025
Subject to a formal vote

A change in Regulation 66...

The better to support **One Journey - One Organisation** and assist candidates in completing their journey in Pure Antient Freemasonry, the Committee of General Purposes considers that it is desirable to modify the process required for joining a Chapter for candidates for exaltation or joining membership. The Committee believes that the current requirement for both a proposer and seconder for a candidate to complete his journey is unnecessary and that a single subscribing member of the Chapter should instead be able to sponsor a candidate's proposal for membership. A proposal to amend the Regulation will be made in November.

“Candidates for admission into a Chapter must be duly proposed by a subscribing member of the Chapter, to whom the candidate is known personally, who will act as that candidate's sponsor. Such proposition may take place either at a regular convocation or by notice transmitted by the proposer to the Scribe E. at least fourteen days before the next convocation. For this purpose the candidate and his proposer shall supply such information, and in such format, as may from time to time be prescribed by the Committee of General Purposes. But no ballot shall take place unless the full name of the candidate, with his occupation (if any) and place of abode as well as the name of his proposer shall have appeared on the summons to the members of the Chapter. In the case of a candidate for exaltation the name and number of every Lodge of which he is or has been a member and the date on which he was raised and in the case of a candidate for joining the name and number of every Chapter of which he is or has been a member shall be shown on the summons.”



In Touch > On Line

The newsletter for all Wiltshire Freemasons



MAY 2025

Simon says Portal is the way to go...

Portal is probably one of the best initiatives UGLE has introduced. It's so easy to sign up to and to use, just as importantly it puts you in control of your personal data and means your Lodge Secretary is always up to date with your address, email, and telephone numbers.

PLAY FOLLOW MY LEADER...



"Signing up for a service like Portal can be a great way to streamline your digital experiences and access a range of features designed to make your life easier. After signing up, take a moment to explore the features and settings to tailor the experience to your needs"

- Manage your Masonic profile with ease.
- Never miss a Lodge meeting again.
- Keep in touch with Members of your Lodge
- Chart your Masonic journey.
- Let others know what you can do.

Use this link to access Portal on your desktop computer:
<https://desktop.portal.ugle.org.uk/>



Scan here with your mobile to begin your digital Masonic journey.



Simon Leighfield
Deputy Provincial Grand Master

SIGN UP TODAY TO BE A PART OF THIS EXCITING PROJECT

Enhance your Masonic experience for years to come.

Carols at Christmas
DECEMBER 14th 3.00 PM
MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE CHAPEL

SCAN AND BOOK TODAY

Rev John Railton will once again be leading Carols at Christmas...

When in early 2023 PrGM John Reid asked the team to consider how the Province could elevate the annual church service to become 'something special' he couldn't have envisaged the outcome of their deliberations.

Yet here we are planning for the third **Carols at Christmas** to be held on **Sunday 14th December at 3.00pm** in the magnificent surroundings of the Marlborough College Chapel. Led by Provincial Grand Chaplain Rev. John Railton and the Rev. Sandy Railton **Carols at Christmas** is the perfect start to Christmas.

We can guarantee mulled wine, mince pies and superb music - all we need to make it perfect is **you**. Please scan the QR code and book a seat for you, family and friends, all are welcome.

P.S. We have booked Father Christmas who will be bringing a present for all the children.

Wiltshire Freemasons

Invite you to a **PSA** screening event on

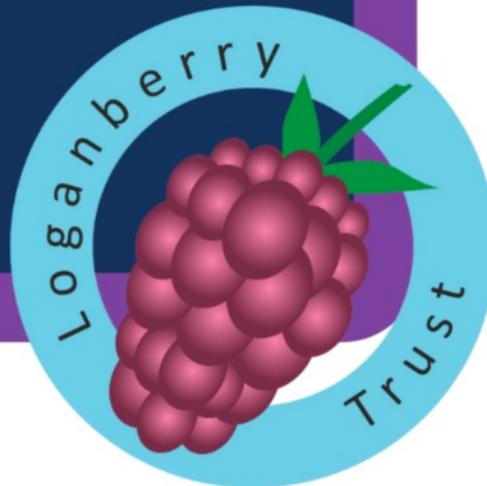
Saturday 10th May 2025

at **Freemasons' Hall**

Crane Street

Salisbury

By Appointment Only



WHEN BOOKING YOUR TEST PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU COMPLETE THE APPLICATION CORRECTLY INCLUDING MAKING THE £10 PAYMENT.

PLEASE DO NOT MAKE ANY OTHER OPTIONAL PAYMENTS.

IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE A PAYMENT CONFIRMATION YOUR APPLICATION AND BOOKING WILL NOT BE COMPLETE AND YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO BE TESTED.

When: Saturday 10th May

Time: 10.00 until 14.00

Where: Freemasons' Hall

Crane Street | Salisbury | SP1 2QD

Cost: £10.00

Book Your Test Now



SALISBURY

For more information visit: <https://gfct.mypsatests.org.uk/>

Tel: 01926 419959 - E: info@psatests.org.uk



MAY 2025

Chris takes the hot seat at Highworth...

And he did so in style and with a great deal of support from Members of the Lodge and friends from Lodges meeting in Swindon including Harry C Preater Lodge No.8204, and George Duke Of Kent Lodge No.8788 where Chris is also a subscribing Member.

Veteran Member Mike Taylor dusted off his 'book' and opened the Lodge while Ian Lever produced a master class in conducting the Installation.

Assistant Provincial Grand Master Steve Lee presided at the meeting which was attended by 45 Brethren and was delighted to receive a cheque from the new Master for £2,960 that took the Lodge to its goal of £15,800 for the Wiltshire 2028 Festival.



The Installation meeting of Chris was tinged with an element of sadness as after fortyfour years of meeting in Highworth (the Lodge was Consecrated in September 1981) the Members will be leaving the town and moving to The Planks, Swindon in September of this year.

While sad to see an end to its presence in Highworth, the Lodge has an active membership with a number of newer Freemasons becoming actively involved in Lodge activities including a regular attendance at the Sunday morning school of instruction held at The Planks and led by Vince Wheeler and Ian Lever.



Giving is not just about money...

And Members of Vastern Lodge No.8977 demonstrated that when they chose to donate soft toys to the children’s ward at Swindon’s Great Western Hospital. Mike Bracken was the bearer of soft toys (we think he was reluctant to hand over the Smurf) and from the smiles on the faces of the staff members we reckon the gift of toys was a great success. Well done Vastern Lodge.



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.



MAY 2025

Meeting Calendar for May...

May'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 MAY 2025

| Date | Lodge/Chapter Name | No. | Ceremony | Location |
|------|---------------------------------|-------|---------------------------|------------------|
| 1 | Clarendon Lodge | L5908 | 3 rd Degree | Trowbridge |
| 1 | Broade Forde Lodge | L8547 | White Table | Bradford on Avon |
| 1 | Lodge of Brothers in Arms | L9540 | 2 nd Degree *1 | Salisbury |
| 1 | Gooch Chapter | C1295 | Installation | Swindon |
| 2 | Wiltshire Summer Lodge | L9548 | 2 nd Degree *1 | Salisbury |
| 6 | St Aldhelm Chapter | C2888 | Lectures | Chippenham |
| 7 | Longleat Lodge | L1478 | 2 nd Degree | Warminster |
| 7 | Sarum Lodge | L5137 | 2 nd Degree | Salisbury |
| 8 | Lodge Elias de Derham | L586 | Installation | Salisbury |
| 10 | Provincial Grand Chapter | PGC | Annual Convocation | Melksham |
| 12 | Lodge of Concord | L632 | 1 st Degree | Trowbridge |
| 12 | Harry C Preator Lodge | L8204 | Installation | Swindon |
| 12 | Downton Lodge | L9064 | Installation | Downton |
| 13 | Lansdowne Lodge of Unity | L626 | White Table | Chippenham |
| 13 | Lodge of Loyalty | L1533 | Installation | Marlborough |
| 14 | Lodge of Friendship and Unity | L1271 | 2 nd Degree *1 | Bradford on Avon |
| 16 | Chapter of Harmony | C663 | Exaltation *1 | Devizes |
| 17 | Wyvern Lodge | L8620 | Installation | Warminster |
| 17 | Tisbury Lodge | L8718 | 1 st Degree | Salisbury |
| 19 | Lodge of Rectitude | L335 | Lecture | Corsham |
| 19 | Lodge of Good Fellowship | L8388 | TBC | Marlborough |
| 20 | White Horse Lodge | L2227 | Lecture | Westbury |
| 21 | The Border Lodge | L3129 | 3 rd Degree | Ludgershall |
| 21 | Vastern Lodge | L8977 | 3 rd Degree *2 | Calne |
| 21 | Chapter of Friendship and Unity | 1271 | Installation | Bradford on Avon |
| 22 | Corsham Lodge | L6616 | Installation | Corsham |
| 27 | St Edmund Lodge | L4714 | Installation | Calne |
| 30 | Wiltshire Masters Lodge | L6731 | Lecture | Chippenham |

*1 = Double Ceremon, *2 = Emergency Meeting

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



A safe repository in which you can lock up your personal details, your address, your phone numbers, and your email address. It's also the place you can share those details with your Brethren and Companions.



A MASTER IN OFFICE SOMETIMES REFERRED TO AS A 'RULING MASTER' DOES NOT WEAR HIS COLLAR OUTSIDE OF HIS LODGE UNLESS IT IS TO PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OR A QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION MEETING OF GRAND LODGE. THE OBSERVANT DIRECTOR OF CEREMONIES WILL INSTANTLY RECOGNISE THE STATUS OF A MASTER AND CONDUCT HIM TO HIS SEAT IN THE LODGE. HOWEVER, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT A BROTHER MAY WEAR THE APRON OF A MASTER BUT NOT THE COLLAR - WHAT HAPPENS THEN?

DID YOU
?
KNOW