

The Bow Bearer

The Quarterly Newsletter for the Order of the Secret Monitor in Province of Worcestershire



Third Quarter of 2024

Welcome

Welcome to the first edition of our new newsletter. As the title suggests, this newsletter will be distributed each quarter of the year although we have missed 2024.

When Right Worthy Brother Bob Vaughan was asked to become our new Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler he asked me to become the Provincial Communications Officer. Things seem to be happening quickly as we planned the installation and so my job description hasn't been agreed. However if the brief was communications then in my mind a newsletter was a logical part of this role. It turns out so was Bob's, and so here it is.

As is often the way the newsletter as you see it is a work in progress. Every aspect of it can be changed based on your feedback. And with that in mind the content is largely down to you the brethren of the order sending me material for inclusion. Please send me reports of your meetings and photographs (remembering that photographs are not allowed to be taken in open conclaves.) Please tell me what you would like to find here. What could help you?

You may ask about the name, "The Bow Bearer." I asked on Facebook for suggestions for a title and promised a prize to the winner. This title was suggested by Worthy Brother Simon Evans who felt that "bearer" had the double meaning of not only bearing the stringed weapon but also bearing news. Now I need to think of a prize for him.

I hope that you enjoy reading the newsletters and that they prove useful. And I hope to see you all present and healthy in conclave in the upcoming months.

Pete

Brother Peter Jones, Provincial Communications Officer

Installation

It will come as no surprise that this is the main news article... With the resignation of Right Worthy Brother Dr Joseph K.F. Marzouk the planned provincial annual meeting at Northfield became an installation at King's Heath and R.Wy.Bro. Bob Vaughan became our new Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler. Some 130 brethren attended including 25 Supreme Rulers from around the country. At the festive board 121 dined including our Craft Provincial Grand Master, Right Worshipful Brother Stephen Wyer who of course was R.Wy.Bro. Bob's successor in the craft.

It could be discussed for hours but I think that it just bears acknowledgement of all of the work that went into the day. Work from those on display such as the Directors of Ceremonies and the Arch of Steel and also work from those doing the administration such as preparing the reports and setting the seating plans. As a province we did a great job and surely gave Bob a day to remember.

There are lots of photographs of the day on the new web site but please see some of the best here. With thanks to Worthy Brothers Scott Dunn and Martin Grahame-Dunn for allowing their photographs to be used.



V.Wy.Bro. M.A. Thomson-O'Connor
Dep.G.D.C.

R.Wy.Bro. R.C. Vaughan
Prov.G.S.R.

V.Wy.Bro. H.S. Sagoo
Dep.G.D.C.

Wy.Bro. Dr. H. Carlton
Dep.prov.G.S.R.

R.Wy.Bro. R. Ellis
G.D.C.



A vast array of Right Worthy Brethren



The Arch of Steel in rehearsal

The Regatta

No rest for the wicked as the old saying goes. R.Wy.Bro. Bob must have been pretty wicked at some point as the day after the installation he competed in the annual regatta against teams which included R.W.Bro. Stephen Wyer and Most Excellent Companion Sir David H. Wooton, the Second Grand Principal of the Royal Arch. The ultimate winners were a team from Shropshire.

In the afternoon R.Wy.Bro. Bob presented R.W.Bro Stephen with a cheque for £500 from our provincial conclave for the new craft charity chest.



The Web Site and Facebook

Please see www.worcestershire-osm.com which is our new website that went live on the evening of the installation. Again this is a work in progress and ideas on content or suggestions for improvement are welcomed. All of our conclaves are listed there so visitors can easily see when and where we meet and who to contact. It has to be stated that for any brother who is considering creating a web site for any masonic order, lodge or conclave that Mark Masons' Hall were very efficient and forthcoming in providing material and also thoroughly checking the web site. As always, the protocol is that any communications with MMH should be done via the Provincial Grand Recorder

There is a private Facebook group that has existed for some years but until recently has seen little in the way of discussion or content. You can make that change! Please visit <https://www.facebook.com/share/snqTM36JxkBJfmk4/> .

There are plans to start an outward-facing Facebook page in due course. As to why a "page" as well as a "group" well there are differences but that's a discussion for another edition.

Warden of Regalia

A role has become vacant withing the provincial set-up that doesn't require learning a lot of ritual, or hours of practicing drill, or even sitting at a computer all day. The province needs someone who can be helpful to be warden of regalia. This role doesn't come with a sash, or even letters after your name, but you do make a lot of friends.

The Warden of Regalia collects in unwanted regalia – usually due to a promotion, or death of member. This regalia then becomes a provincial stock, to be loaned to Provincial Officers who may be in post for a single year or given to someone getting their first Grand Rank or promotion. In exchange, the person receiving the regalia is expected to make a donation to the provincial Charity Account.

Anyone interested – please email Very Worth Brother Gareth Hughes on worcsosm@gmail.com

Spread the Word (Via Powerpoint)

Right Worthy Brother Dennis Freshwater of Warwickshire OSM has created a presentation that can be delivered in a conclave or to a craft lodge meeting. It takes about 15 minutes to deliver and serves as a basic introduction to the Order. This has been modified to make it relevant to Worcestershire and has been approved for use in craft lodges by the R.W. Prov.G.M.

If any conclave would like this to be delivered then please make contact with Worthy Brother Howard Carlton on howard.carlton@gmail.com to request a copy.

Worcestershire and Warwickshire Sunday Lunch

Sunday the 17th of November at King's Heath. Further details to be published closer to the event.

Upcoming Dates

September 2024

- Wednesday the 4th Worcester Conclave 186 meeting in King's Heath.
Installation of Worthy Brother Irving Horne
- Wednesday the 18th Bromsgrove Conclave 224 meeting in Kidderminster
- Wednesday the 25th Sir Edward Elgar Conclave 527 meeting in Rainbow Hill.
Installation of Worth Brother Peter Ibbotson
- Thursday the 19th Charles Hinitt Conclave 283 meeting in Northfield.
Installation of Very Worthy Brother Mike Saxon
- Thursday the 31st Ted Meredith Conclave No. 427 meeting at King's Heath
Installation of R.Wy.Bro. Dennis Freshwater

October 2024

- Saturday the 12th Installation of W.Bro Scott Dunn as Provincial Grand
Supreme Ruler for the Provincial Grand Conclave of
Kent. To take place in Temple 10, Freemasons' Hall,
Great Queen Street, London

November 2024

- Tuesday the 12th Sabrina Conclave 486 meeting in Stourport
- Thursday the 14th Grand Conclave at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen
Street, London
- Sunday the 17th Worcestershire and Warwickshire Sunday Lunch at King's
Heath

Details of all the above will be circulated when available

Contact

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