



Royal Arch Masons Provincial Grand Chapter of South Wales

E.Comp D. Gerald Rowbottom
Most Excellent Grand Superintendent

E. Comp. C. Hugh Thomas, *OStJ*, PGSwdB
Deputy Grand Superintendent

E. Comp. Phillip A. Aubrey, PGStB
Second Provincial Grand Principal

E. Comp. Peter Jones, PGStB
Third Provincial Grand Principal



Saturday 27th June 2020

REPORT OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF SOUTH WALES HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13TH MAY 2020 AT 11.00 AM

Present Excellent Companions D. Gerald Rowbottom, Most Excellent Grand Superintendent; C. Hugh Thomas, Deputy Grand Superintendent; Phillip A. Aubrey, Second Provincial Grand Principal; Peter Jones, Third Provincial Grand Principal; R. Michael Coombes, Assistant to the Provincial Grand Principals; Lance S. McPhail, Assistant to the Provincial Grand Principals; Ben Gait, Provincial Grand Scribe E; Brian G. Scott, Provincial Grand Treasurer; John M. Steward, Provincial Grand Registrar; Christopher M. L. Davies, Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies; Ian James, Provincial Deputy Grand Registrar; Martyn P. Wake, Provincial Deputy Grand Scribe E; Philip Bevan, Provincial Grand Almoner; Robert G. Payne, Provincial Grand Charity Steward; Simon Daniel, Provincial Membership Officer; Karl Frowen, Provincial Communications Officer (Designate).

OBITUARY

The Committee greatly regretted recording the deaths of forty-one Companions of the Province in the time since the last Annual Convocation of Provincial Grand Chapter. A full list will appear in the Masonic Year Book.

APPOINTMENTS and PROMOTIONS

The Grand Superintendent offered warmest congratulations to the Companions that have been honoured in Supreme Grand Chapter.

Re-appointment

E. Comp. Gareth Jones, OBE, Most Excellent Third Grand Principal

Promotion

E. Comp. Gwilym H. Jones, *CSJ*, to Past Assistant Grand Sojourner

Appointments

E. Comp. Jeffrey T. Coles as Past Grand Standard Bearer

E. Comp. Christopher W. Eveleigh as Past Grand Standard Bearer

E. Comp. Martyn P. Wake as Past Grand Standard Bearer

REPORT OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND REGISTRAR

Chapter memberships at 31st December 2019, as will be printed in the Annual Convocation Booklet, stood at 2,617 (2,686 in 2018) – a fall of 2.53% - but after discounting multiple memberships the Province had 2,135 net Companions (2,179 in 2018) – a fall of 2.02%.

Exaltations totalled 118 (109) which was the highest for many years while joining memberships were 53 (106) where much of this reduction was due to this being the first year since 2017 when no new Chapter was consecrated. 8 Chapters (7) had neither exaltations nor joining members and a further 4 Chapters (7) had no exaltations (excluding the Past Principal's Chapters). Thus 54 (52) Chapters exalted 118 (109) Companions.

Deaths were greater in 2019 at 50 (36) although the average age of the Companions is much the same and exclusions totalled 20 (20) where the effects of the Regulation 66B - removing members who are no longer members of a craft lodge - is taking effect. This is also partly reflected in the increase in the number of resignations to 170 (136) although the increasing age and infirmity of Companions and their nearest and dearest has also taken its toll. However, of concern is the fact that there are still 9 (9) Chapters with memberships of 20 or less.

Our goal should continue to be to recruit 50% of Craft Masons into the Royal Arch although the emphasis must continue to be on quality rather than quantity.

I am grateful to the Chapter Scribes E. for all their efforts although I would continue to stress that timely advices of deaths, resignations and exclusions would be appreciated rather than these being left until the submission of annual returns.

REPORT OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND TREASURER

The Provincial Grand Treasurer presented the audited accounts for the year ended 31st December 2019.

The finances of the Province proved to be exceptionally healthy with a surplus for the year of £7,471 (2018: £2,857 deficit) and net assets totalling £88,762 (2018: £80,329). The 2018 anticipated deficit was due to substantial exceptional costs including the Grand Superintendent's installation and costs of regalia and new banner etc.

The surplus for 2019 reflects not only the absence of those exceptional costs but also the significant savings as a result of vacating our own office in Newport Road and sharing the offices of Provincial Grand Lodge, plus further savings achieved on the cost of the 2019 Annual Convocation. As a result, the Provincial Grand Treasurer recommended that annual dues are maintained at the present amount of £4.50 per member.

The investment, held in a low risk fund portfolio managed by Brewin Dolphin, continued to perform well during the year. From an initial cost of £25,000 gross (£24,250 net) invested at the start of 2013, the market value was £32,178 at 31 December 2019. This provided a much better balance of investment and overall return than bank deposits.

The Provincial Grand Charity Relief Chest balance stood at £39,001 at the year-end after having made cumulative transfers of £60,000 to the 2021 Festival. This was again boosted by the Annual Convocation collection of £1,377 (2018: £1,600) which together with the related gift aid tax reclaim totalled £1,684 (2018: £1,938). It is worth noting that we have recovered gift aid tax on approximately 89% of Convocation donations.

The report was accepted with grateful thanks to the Treasurer and to the Auditor E Comp David C Jones PPRGReg.

REPORT OF THE DEPUTY GRAND SUPERINTENDENT

This report must start with the fact that this has been a most unusual year with the lock down caused by the Covid-19 virus and the cessation of Masonic activities since March 17th.

On a more pleasing note, it is my pleasure to say again that the Provincial teams were warmly welcomed at the installation ceremonies attended and that the standards of rituals in most chapters had been good and in a few very good. Numbers present at these convocations were pleasing and at the after proceedings, the hospitality extended to the Provincial team on duty was greatly appreciated by us.

It was apparent how much the acting Provincial officers had enjoyed their appointment and their roles within the Provincial teams on duty. I am most grateful to each one for the way they carried out their duties and for their willingness to fill in when a member scheduled to be on duty was unable to fulfil his position in the team on certain occasions.

Chapters were maintaining their ongoing support for our 2021 Festival, many presenting cheques to the Executive on duty at the Festive Boards. The Executive is grateful for the contributions of the administrative core of our Provincial Grand Chapter for all their assistance throughout the year to us all.

I am sure there is disappointment with the many weeks of Provincial activity being missed this year by the acting officers, but I can assure them that the Province is pleased and grateful to each one of them for their roles in this most unforgettable year. We all regret that certain highlights in our year such as Grand Chapter in London and the joint meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Chapter in Barry have not occurred, but we continue to enjoy our delightful Order and look forward to next year.

As our usual toast to our Most Excellent Grand Superintendent could not be given in London at our usual annual lunch, may I please be allowed to say how much we all appreciate his dedication and commitment to our Province. We hope there will be many occasions for that to be given over the coming years, but just to say in the absence of a formal toast, "Most Excellent Grand Superintendent, your good health for many, many years to come!"

REPORT OF THE PROVINCIAL GRAND DIRECTOR OF CEREMONIES

In June 2019, I was honoured to be appointed as the Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies and during the summer period, undertook the training evenings for the newly Appointed Provincial Deputy and Assistant Grand Directors of Ceremonies, together with the Provincial Grand Sword Bearer, Provincial Grand Standard Bearers and Provincial Grand Stewards.

My sincere thanks to E. Comp Phillip Aubrey, Prov2ndGP for arranging the bookings of the Temple, together with the excellent support of E. Comp Hugh Thomas, Deputy Grand Superintendent, on the training evenings; together with the support from E. Comp Peter Jones and E. Comp Ben Gait, in sending out the information sheets.

The 2 x training evenings were run as in previous years, in that each Companion was issued with collars and wands and afforded the opportunity to take part in practice Processions, both entry and retiring.

From September 2019 until March 2020, the Provincial team undertook several Installations and my congratulations to the Team for the excellent work that they did and the professional manner in which they acted. The feedback from the Executive was most pleasing.

This year, following the Appointment of the new Provincial Officers, measures will be put in place to ensure that the Provincial Deputies and Assistant Grand Directors of Ceremonies are fully conversant with the needs of the Executive at an Installation Ceremony and the impact it has on the Province. These measures will be implemented at the training evenings this year.

In moving forward, the Provincial Officers will, at their future training evenings, show that they are fully capable in discharging their specific duties and serve as true Ambassadors for the Province.

Sir, once again, on behalf of the Officers of the Province, Past, Present and Future, our sincere thanks for the trust that you have placed in us and we look forward to supporting you in the year ahead.

REPORT OF THE PROVINCIAL MEMBERSHIP OFFICER

My second year has gone very well with increased percentages and increases in our conversation rate of Master Masons/Companions to over 40%. However, the COVID-19 pandemic has prevented us from meeting and resulted in an actual fall in numbers. However, there were a large number of exaltations planned for the second half of the year. This resulted in them being postponed and I have already been informed of several Chapters intending to request extra meetings next year to get candidates exalted.

Working with W Bro John Murdoch, The LIR team and others our list for RA Representatives is now 100% UpToDate and to the best of my knowledge correct. With the process now in place all changes made by the lodges at installations will be noted. It is only when mid term changes need to happen that we are reliant on them informing us.

In Mid-February, the RW PGM and ME Grand Superintendent confirmed a process that can be used to make direct contact with the RA Reps.

The following new documents were developed and were in the process of sending out when the lock-down started.

Tri fold for Newly raised Brethren – Some changes to what we had.

Tri fold Why should I join Chapter – for brethren of a few years standing.

Tri fold Welcome Back to Chapter – For Companions who have resigned.

All Collateral provided will be brief, condensed and easy to understand. It must be simple to use.

We have also written a job description for the RA Reps and a key points card to help them in recruitment.

I hope to get these out within the next few weeks before a return in the autumn. Unfortunately, my workload during the COVID-19 lockdown has been surprisingly high and I have had little spare time.

There have been several new and exciting documents and presentations published on Solomon. These are particularly useful in explaining RA to interested parties and to aid general recruitment. I have made use of this information and have developed a specific presentation for use to use called 'Why join Royal Arc'. This has been presented in two Craft lodges and I had another 4 booked in, but due to the situation these were postponed. RA members of the L&D have agreed to start using this presentation when requested in the new year.

The planned L&D day in April was to have had a specific RA workshop for the first time and a workshop for the RA Representatives. This will now happen at the next event.

We still believe that encouraging the use of 'nuggets' in our Chapter meeting will create interest and a talking point. Generating general interest and will help persuade Companions to take office and progress.

We also intend to ask all RA Reps to deliver a specific 'nugget' at their Craft meeting, once a year. This is to be with consent and support of the WM. The nugget is to promote interest in joining RA. This will also tie in with our L&D initiative.

The formation of an RA Communications team will greatly benefit Membership and L&D for Chapter in our Province. The implementation of an RA Facebook page will be a great tool. I look forward to working with W Bro Karl Frown on this project.

REPORT OF THE PROVINCIAL COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

The planned launch date for the Provincial Facebook account for Holy Royal Arch was intended to be 27th June to coincide with Provincial Grand Lodge.

However, owing to the unexpected turn of events this has been cast into doubt. However, the date is still achievable if we wish to proceed with the original date, or perhaps they may wish to put the date back to when normality resumes? What we should consider is at this time any additional means of communicating to our membership would be a good thing. We could even look at achieving this as soon as possible. We await the green light.

Having an RA Facebook page would enable RA to engage with companions during in these uncertain times, to promote Holy Royal Arch to the masses, keep Companions informed whilst serving as a tool for membership in terms of recruitment, retention, and retrieval, supporting, promoting RA learning and development.

Content and material should be versatile, proactive, and engaging,

- 1) RA Press releases
- 2) Executive reports
- 3) Membership, recruitment, retention, retrieval
- 4) Explanation of RA
- 5) Promoting RA in all forms
- 6) Individual Companions story's

Using various social media outlets such as Y Dalaith to promote the launch of the Provincial RA page including the many Lodge accounts who will undoubtedly share the news of the Provincial RA account.

We have extremely strong Masonic groups within South Wales with a combined total of over 2,000 members, we will certainly be utilising this to promote the Provincial RA page within the Freemasonry groups.

We are also looking at ways to support the communication process with the RA Reps and thus aiding recruitment of members. We also think a 'Welcome Back' feature will be of benefit.

OTHER BUSINESS

CHAPTERS SHOULD HAVE PARTICULAR REGARD TO THE FOLLOWING

Further to all Lodges having a specific item on the agenda: "To appoint Bro AB as the Lodge's Royal Arch representative", it is imperative that the Craft Royal Arch Representatives have an opportunity to speak at our Lodge meetings, and I am grateful to the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master for his full support and leadership in this aim.

I am pleased to note that we continue to see increased donations to charity via use of Gift Aid and once again urge you to please go back to your Chapters and use Gift Aid envelopes at all of your Convocations.

One change for Active officers to note is that when attending Installations (or in an official capacity) the Provincial Officers on duty will no longer wear white gloves, other than the Provincial Grand Sword Bearers. Of course individual Chapters will no doubt continue with their particular custom and practice, as will Provincial Officers when attending privately.

E. Comp. D. Gerald Rowbottom

Most Excellent Grand Superintendent

No.	Name Of Chapter	31-12-18	ADD			DEDUCT				31-12-19	Inc/Dec.
			EXALTED	JOINED	TOTAL	Deceased	Resigned	Excluded	TOTAL		
36	St. John's	38	2	0	2	0	2	1	3	37	-1
110	David Rees Lewis	49	2	0	2	0	1	0	1	50	1
237	Virtue and Hope	38	2	0	2	0	1	0	1	39	1
364	Cambrian	23	4	1	5	0	3	0	3	25	2
651	Brecknock	53	2	1	3	2	1	1	4	52	-1
679	St. David's	64	2	0	2	1	2	0	3	63	-1
833	Afan	76	2	1	3	2	15	1	18	61	-15
960	Sir George Elliot	17	0	0	0	1	2	0	3	14	-3
1323	Talbot	36	1	1	2	0	7	2	9	29	-7
1578	Naunton Davies	38	3	0	3	0	1	0	1	40	2
1752	Atholl	46	4	0	4	0	1	0	1	49	3
1992	Marmaduke Tennant	30	1	1	2	0	5	0	5	27	-3
2357	Barry	48	1	0	1	1	2	0	3	46	-2
2453	The Duke of York	26	1	0	1	0	2	0	2	25	-1
2606	Fforest	56	3	1	4	1	1	0	2	58	2
2720	Dovey	17	2	1	3	0	2	0	2	18	1
2965	Llynfi	41	0	0	0	2	1	0	3	38	-3
3161	Dr. Hall	19	2	0	2	1	2	0	3	18	-1
3250	Hendre	229	0	7	7	4	13	0	17	219	-10
3320	Wye & Ithon	38	2	0	2	0	2	0	2	38	0
3756	Venables Llewelyn	60	2	1	3	2	2	0	4	59	-1
3769	Henry Pendrill Charles	61	3	0	3	0	7	0	7	57	-4
3977	Vale of Glamorgan	19	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	19	0
4055	North Glamorgan	22	0	0	0	1	2	0	3	19	-3
4113	Penarth	22	2	0	2	0	1	1	2	22	0
4194	Llangeinor	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	0
4778	St. Quentin's	34	4	1	5	2	0	0	2	37	3
4917	Corinthian	26	2	0	2	1	1	0	2	26	0
5057	Gnoll	29	2	0	2	0	6	0	6	25	-4
5291	West Glamorgan	32	2	0	2	2	3	0	5	29	-3
5378	Glantawe	28	1	0	1	1	2	0	3	26	-2
5567	Penllergaer	33	4	1	5	0	0	0	0	38	5
5772	Cartref	52	2	0	2	1	3	0	4	50	-2
5830	Friendship & Justice	18	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	21	3
5857	Three Pillars	20	1	0	1	0	4	0	4	17	-3
5907	Emerald	21	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	21	0

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER - SOUTH WALES
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

	2019		2018	
	£	£	£	£
INCOME				
Chapter Dues Received		13,242		13,116
Investment Income				
Bank Deposit Interest		242		184
Income from Investments		644		713
		<u> </u>		<u> </u>
TOTAL INCOME		14,128		14,013
EXPENDITURE				
Office Costs, Rent etc.	800		2,888	
Telephone, Postages and Printing	320		1,666	
Admin. Expenses	3,347		4,937	
Installation Convocation	-		2,842	
Annual Convocation	824		2,314	
Regalia & Badges	165		817	
Provincial Yearbook	1,201		1,406	
		<u> </u>		<u> </u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		6,657		16,870
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR		<u> </u>		<u> </u>
		<u>7,471</u>		<u>(2,857)</u>

M. E. GRAND SUPERINTENDENT'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

INCOME				
Donations Received	13,620		10,020	
Surplus on Sale of Merchandise	667		392	
Gala Dinner Surplus	-		1,817	
		<u> </u>		<u> </u>
		14,287		12,229
EXPENDITURE				
Transfer to Relief Chest	13,075		10,020	
Donations to Local Charities etc.	250		750	
		<u> </u>		<u> </u>
		13,325		10,770
INCREASE IN FUND		<u> </u>		<u> </u>
		<u>962</u>		<u>1,459</u>

**PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER - SOUTH WALES
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2019**

	2019		2018	
	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS				
Investments				
Brewin Dolphin Portfolio		29,184		28,420
(Market Value £32,178 (£29,489))				
CURRENT ASSETS				
Bank Balances	62,587		52,798	
Stock of Merchandise etc.	2,150		2,912	
Debtors & Prepayments	297		293	
	65,034		56,003	
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Sundry Creditors	5,456		4,094	
NET CURRENT ASSETS		59,578		51,909
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		88,762		80,329

Represented by:

GENERAL FUND

Opening Balance	54,976		57,833	
Surplus (Deficit) for the period	7,471		(2,857)	
Balance as at 31 December	62,447		54,976	

M. E. GRAND SUPERINTENDENT'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Opening Balance	25,353		23,894	
Increase in Period	962		1,459	
	26,315		25,353	
	88,762		80,329	

CHARITY FUND - GRAND CHARITY RELIEF CHEST

Opening Balance		35,551		33,305
Deposits Made				
Installation Convocation Collection	-		1,289	
Annual Convocation Collection	1,367		1,575	
Transfer from Benevolent Fund	13,075		10,020	
Other Donations	2,099		2,521	
	16,541		15,405	
Gross Interest		282		137
Tax Reclaimed on Gift Aid Donations		907		879
Fees of Honour		720		825
Less Donations: 2021 Festival		(15,000)		(15,000)
		39,001		35,551

Signed: B G Scott FCA **PGStB** Provincial Grand Treasurer

Report of the Accounts Examiner

I have examined the above Financial Statements with the books and vouchers relating thereto, and in my opinion, the Balance Sheet gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Provincial Grand Chapter at 31 December 2019 and of the Income and Expenditure, and the Charity Fund for the year ended on that date.

Signed: David Charles Jones JP FCA PPrGReg Accounts Examiner _____

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF SOUTH WALES – OFFICERS 2020 - 2021

M.E. Grand Superintendent	Excellent Companion D. Gerald Rowbottom	
Deputy Grand Superintendent	Excellent Companion C. H. Thomas, OStJ, PGSwdB	
Second Provincial Grand Principal	Excellent Companion P. A. Aubrey, PGStB	
	Excellent Companion P. Jones, PGStB*	
Third Provincial Grand Principal	Excellent Companion P. Jones, PGStB	
	Excellent Companion R. M. Coombes, PGStB*	
<i>* to be Appointed, Obligated and Invested on the 24th August, 2020 (or when current restrictions permit)</i>		
Assistant to the Principals	Excellent Companion Kevin Hearne, PPrDGDC	
Assistant to the Principals	Excellent Companion J. Lyndon Howells, PGStB	
Scribe Ezra	E. Comp. B. Gait	ProvGSE
Scribe Nehemiah	E. Comp. J. L. Murdoch	PPrDGSwdB
Treasurer	E. Comp. B. G. Scott, FCA	PGStB, ProvGTreas
Registrar	E. Comp. J. M. Steward	PAGDC, ProvGReg
Director of Ceremonies	E. Comp. C. M. L. Davies	PGStB, ProvGDC
Sword Bearer	E. Comp. B. J. Jones	PPrGSoj
Deputy Registrar	E. Comp. I. James	PGStB, ProvDGReg
Deputy Scribe Ezra	E. Comp. M. P. Wake	PGStB, ProvDGSE
Deputy Director of Ceremonies	E. Comp. R. A. Jones	PPrDGDC
Deputy Director of Ceremonies	E. Comp. S. P. Cuddihy	ProvDGDC
Deputy Director of Ceremonies	E. Comp. S. J. Francis	ProvDGDC
Deputy Sword Bearer	E. Comp. E. P. Roberts	PPrGSoj
Almoner	E. Comp. P. Bevan	ProvGAlm
Charity Steward	E. Comp. R. G. Payne	ProvGChStwd
Principal Sojourner	E. Comp. P. Hamley	2965
First Assistant Sojourner	E. Comp. D. V. Jones	6298
Second Assistant Sojourner	E. Comp. R. W. D. Short	7196
Standard Bearer	E. Comp. P. Q. Rees	36
Standard Bearer	E. Comp. M. S. Flanagan OStJ	1752
Standard Bearer	E. Comp. H. C. Rose	3161
Standard Bearer	E. Comp. D. Maggs	7216
Standard Bearer	E. Comp. D. Canning	8991
Organist	Comp. C. E. Pike	ProvGOrg, 7928
Assistant Director of Ceremonies	E. Comp. D. T. Price	PPrGStwd
Assistant Director of Ceremonies	E. Comp. M. T. Fairie	6907
Assistant Director of Ceremonies	E. Comp. D. P. Hanney	9247
Steward	E. Comp. R. Fry	1323
Steward	E. Comp. D. J. Watkins	5057
Steward	E. Comp. S. C. Davies	5378
Steward	E. Comp. E. W. Wynne	5567
Steward	E. Comp. P. E. Taylor	5857
Steward	E. Comp. S. L. Williams	7305
Steward	E. Comp. A. Davies	8334
Steward	E. Comp. M. Cornelius	8508
Steward	E. Comp. M. J. Bevan	8644
Steward	E. Comp. M. Richards	9603
Janitor	E. Comp. Ariel Roque	7353

Promotions to Past Rank

Past Provincial Grand Scribes Nehemiah

E. Comp. P. M. Grace	PPrDepGSwdB	Cambrian Chapter, No. 364
‡ E. Comp. Rev. N. Lea	PPrGReg	Afan Chapter, No. 833 ‡
E. Comp. D. V. Scone	PPrGReg	Atholl Chapter, No. 1752
E. Comp. M. Hopkins	PPrAGSoj	Hendre Chapter, No. 3250
E. Comp. L. J. Blann	PPrGSwdB	West Glamorgan Chapter, No. 5291
E. Comp. E. G. Jenkins	PPrGSwdB	Glantawe Chapter, No. 5378
E. Comp. D. L. Jones	PPrGSwdB	Friendship and Justice Chapter, No. 5830
E. Comp. K. J. Evans	PPrGReg	Gelligaer Chapter, No. 6298
E. Comp. D. G. Hackman	PPrGSwdB	Ystradyfodwg Chapter, No. 7638
E. Comp. M. J. Price	PPrGReg	Aelwyd Chapter, No. 7982
E. Comp. T. K. Isaac	PPrGSwdB	Chapter of Sker, No. 8024
E. Comp. P. M. Kennedy	PPrGReg	Luminary Chapter, No. 8530
E. Comp. A. P. Baker	PPrGReg	Llanilltud Fawr Chapter, No. 8644
E. Comp. B. E. Williams	PPrGSwdB	Adare Chapter, No. 9247

Past Provincial Grand Registrars

E. Comp. W. Stevenson	PPrGSoj	Afan Chapter, No. 833
E. Comp. V. J. Harris	PPrDepGReg	Marmaduke Tennant Chapter, No. 1992
E. Comp. M. A. Jones	PPrGSoj	Barry Chapter, No. 2357
E. Comp. B. E. Griffiths	PPrGStdB	North Glamorgan Chapter, No. 4055
E. Comp. P. G. Vincent	PPrDepGSwdB	Penarth Chapter, No. 4113
E. Comp. B. J. Stubbings	PPrDepGSwdB	Doric Chapter, No. 5968
E. Comp. A. J. Dodd	PPrGSoj	Miskin Chapter, No. 8625
E. Comp. R. J. Williams	PPrDepGReg	Llantwit Major Chapter, No. 9241
E. Comp. A. L. Hughes	PPrGSoj	Cwm Rhondda Chapter, No. 9692

Past Provincial Grand Sword Bearers

E. Comp. A. Jones	PPrDepGSwdB	David Rees Lewis Chapter, No. 110
E. Comp. S. J. Needs	PPrGSoj	Talbot Chapter, No. 1323
E. Comp. D. A. Hooper	PPrDepGSwdB	Naunton Davies Chapter, No. 1578
E. Comp. C. D. Davies	PPrGSoj	Atholl Chapter, No. 1752
E. Comp. B. J. Waddell	PPrDepGDC	Doric Chapter, No. 5968
E. Comp. J. F. E. Davies	PPrGSoj	Dyffryn Tawe Chapter, No. 6056
E. Comp. M. Lloyd	PPrGSoj	R. P. St. John Charles Chapter, No. 6466
E. Comp. M. L. Bevan	PPrGSoj	Llanilltud Fawr Chapter, No. 8644
E. Comp. R. E. W. Andrews	PPrDepGSwdB	Llantwit Major Chapter, No. 9241

Past Provincial Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies

E. Comp. R. J. Ackroyd	PPrGStB	Brecknock Chapter, No. 651
E. Comp. M. Richards	PPrGStB	Dr. Hall Chapter, No. 3161
E. Comp. P. R. Crayford	PPrGStwd	Ionic Chapter, No. 6626
E. Comp. M. C. Jones	PPrAGDC	Wenallt Chapter, No. 9082

Past Provincial Deputy Grand Sword Bearers

E. Comp. Dr. C. E. Evans	PPrAGSoj	St. John's Chapter, No. 36
E. Comp. P. S. Haley	PPrGStwd	Vale of Glamorgan Chapter, No. 3977
E. Comp. G. R. J. Downes	PPrGStB	St Quentin's Chapter, No. 4778
E. Comp. K. J. McCormack	PPrGStB	Gnoll Chapter, No. 5057
E. Comp. J. C. Jacobs	PPrGStB	West Glamorgan Chapter, No. 5291
E. Comp. A. A. Milne	PPrGStB	Penllergaer Chapter, No. 5567
E. Comp. J. A. Moses	PPrGStB	Cartref Chapter, No. 5772
E. Comp. S. G. Fraser	PPrGStB	Chapter of Three Pillars, No. 5857
E. Comp. J. H. Davies	PPrGStB	Dyffryn Tawe Chapter, No. 6056
E. Comp. G. J. A. Alonzi	PPrGStB	Chapter of Integrity, No. 6907
E. Comp. N. F. Charles	PPrGStB	Llanfair Chapter, No. 7353
E. Comp. D. Stephens	PPrAGSoj	Ynys Chapter, No. 8274
E. Comp. S. R. Adam	PPrGStwd	Dinas Llandaf Chapter, No. 8512
E. Comp. S. C. Rees	PPrGStB	Luminary Chapter, No. 8530

Past Provincial Grand Sojourners

E. Comp. A. Chandler	PPrGStB	Atholl Chapter, No. 1752
E. Comp. M. J. McNiff	PPrGStwd	Dovey Chapter, No. 2720
E. Comp. V. J. J. Haskins	PPrGStwd	Llynfi Chapter, No. 2965
E. Comp. C. J. Williams	PPrGStB	Venables Llewelyn Chapter, No. 3756
E. Comp. N. England	PPrAGDC	Corinthian Chapter, No. 4917
E. Comp. H. A. Miles	PPrAGSoj	Gnoll Chapter, No. 5057
E. Comp. R. Date	PPrGStB	Glantawe Chapter, No. 5378
E. Comp. P. C. Langton	PPrGStwd	Dyffryn Tawe, No. 6056
E. Comp. P. F. Brothers	PPrGStwd	Chapter of Sker, No. 8024
E. Comp. P. D. Rice	PPrAGDC	Ynys Chapter, No. 8274
E. Comp. H. J. Caylor	PPrGStwd	Hamlet of Van Chapter, No. 8334
E. Comp. R. O. W. Edwards	PPrGStB	Sure and Stedfast Chapter, No. 8991

‡ Promotion already conferred in the field

Past Rank Appointments

Past Provincial Assistant Grand Sojourners

E. Comp. R. Rees	David Rees Lewis Chapter, No. 110
E. Comp. N. E. Mathewson	Virtue and Hope Chapter, No. 237
E. Comp. S. P. Cegielski	Fforest Chapter, No. 2606
E. Comp. T. J. Scarfe	Henry Pendrill Charles Chapter, No. 3769
E. Comp. R. W. Thomas	Corinthian Chapter, No. 4917
‡ E. Comp. K. G. Rice	Doric Chapter, No. 5968 ‡
E. Comp. G. Wyatt	Llanfair Chapter, No. 7353
E. Comp. R. Lewis	Aelwyd Chapter, No. 7982
E. Comp. R. D. Evans	Chapter of Sker, No. 8024
E. Comp. S. Watkins	Ynys Chapter, No. 8274
E. Comp. D. R. Jones	Miskin Chapter, No. 8625
E. Comp. A. J. Fraser	Llantwit Major Chapter, No. 9241
E. Comp. H. A. Rowlands	Hafan Deg Chapter, No. 9520

Past Provincial Grand Standard Bearers

E. Comp. W. T. L. Walters	Brecknock Chapter, No. 651
E. Comp. R. Steele	St. David's Chapter, No. 679
E. Comp. I. V. Walters	Afan Chapter, No. 833
E. Comp. L. B. Hopkins	Sir George Elliot Chapter, No. 960
E. Comp. E. Boyle	Marmaduke Tennant Chapter, No. 1992
E. Comp. J. S. Evans	Venables Llewelyn Chapter, No. 3756
E. Comp. W. F. Griffiths	Gnoll Chapter, No. 5057
E. Comp. C. L. Morgan	Penllergaer Chapter, No. 5567
E. Comp. P. Trigg	Cartref Chapter, No. 5772
E. Comp. V. de Paul Marnell	R.P. St. John Charles Chapter, No. 6466
E. Comp. G. J. Rigden	Ionic Chapter, No. 6626
E. Comp. A. Daniels	Ystradyfodwg Chapter, No. 7638
E. Comp. G. W. Thomas	Chapter of Progress, No. 7928
E. Comp. J. I. Selwood	Juventus Chapter, No. 8105
E. Comp. Dr. R. J. Ebrey	Hafan Deg Chapter, No. 9520

Past Provincial Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies

E. Comp. P. C. Dummer	Wye and Ithon Chapter, No. 3320
E. Comp. B. M. Jones	Aelwyd Chapter, No. 7982

Past Provincial Grand Steward

Comp. G. Williams	David Rees Lewis Chapter, No. 110
Comp. T. W. Purser	Llynfi Chapter, No. 2965
Comp. J. A. Evans	Llynfi Chapter, No. 2965

‡ Promotion already conferred in the field

ADDRESS BY THE MOST EXCELLENT GRAND SUPERINTENDENT IN AND OVER SOUTH WALES

Companions, another 12 months has passed us by and I am delighted to have this opportunity to address you today, albeit on this platform, rather than in person. For those viewing my presentation on screen, I hope that you will forgive my COVID hairstyle (through the current restriction on having a haircut)...

COVID 19 has resulted in a suspension of Masonic activity, which all of us look forward to being lifted; when safe to do so. We have found industrious and innovative ways of keeping in touch and supporting each other. We have supported our communities and we can take great pride in the manner that our NHS and RMBI Care Homes have kept our residents safe and well. However, sadly as in every year, we have lost through natural causes 41 Companions of which 3 were Officers of Supreme Grand Chapter, namely Michael J. Hoare, PGSwdB (our Senior Past Deputy GSupt), Alun R. Jehu, PGStB and Alan F. Thomas, PAGDC. We miss them all and all the names of departed Companions will be printed in the On-line Provincial Year Book.

Our Fraternity has been unable to meet "face to face," since early March and it was a great disappointment not to be able to represent you all in London in April to congratulate in person, the following Promotion and Appointments: Re-appointed to ME3GP ME Comp. Gareth Jones, OBE. Promoted to PAGSoj, EComp. Gwilym H. Jones, Past Second Provincial Grand Principal and Appointed to the rank of Past Grand Standard Bearer; E.Comp's Jeffrey T. Coles, Christopher W. Eveleigh and Martyn P. Wake, ProvDGSE, which I heartedly do so today, on this platform.

On the date we would have been attending the Annual Investiture of Supreme Grand Chapter, I announced that we look ahead to an especial meeting of Provincial Grand Chapter, to be held under the auspices of Hendre Chapter No.3250, at Cardiff Masonic Hall, on Monday 24th August 2020; this event of course being subject to a relaxation in the current lock-down measures.

I very much hope that this Convocation goes ahead, in order that I can suitably thank and congratulate E.Comp. Phillip Aubrey and E.Comp. Lance McPhail for their tremendous contribution to our Province. That date will also be when, in succession, I will have the pleasure of Installing E.Comp. Peter Jones as Second Provincial Grand Principal and E.Comp. Michael Coombes as Third Provincial Grand Principal.

E.Comp's Kevin Hearne and Lyndon Howells will serve as Assistants to the Provincial Grand Principals, with effect of today's date.

All Companions on the Executive and Acting Provincial Officers are most grateful for the courtesy extended to us all, during our visits around the Province and indeed when visiting our Kindred Provinces. Our Annual Convocation this year was to be a joint celebration with the Craft, in Barry. The plans we had made on your behalf will come to fruition in 2021.

Companions, we have an Executive Team who are all dedicated to make our Province productive, content and responsive. The Joint Executive Team has increased our understanding of Provincial systems and I am very proud of them all for their invaluable advice and unstinting loyalty, to both myself and the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master. I publicly thank the DGSupt for his counsel to me, support and always valued sage advice.

I thank the ProvGSE, ProvDGSE together with the hard working team of Provincial Officers and helpers, for all of their incredible sense of duty, particularly during this ongoing period of "lock down". The investment that Province had made in office resources, over the past few years and the training these Companions have undertaken, ensured no loss of service – which is quite remarkable. I pay tribute to them all and thank them openly.

We have continued with advancing the following strategic areas: Charity, Communication, Reporting SGC Officers, Royal Arch Representatives and Membership.

Companions, your continued generosity as the members of the Holy Royal Arch is both uplifting and humbling. As well as so generously donating to the 2021 RMBI Festival individually (through your membership of the Craft), all our 69 Chapters have also donated to the Festival and continue to do so. To which end, I am delighted to advise that earlier this month, the Provincial Grand Treasurer transferred further funds from Provincial Grand Chapter to the 2021 RMBI Festival, bringing our total Royal Arch contribution to date in excess of £80,000; a figure which all of you Companions ought to be justly proud and I take this opportunity today, to thank you. Let us all use the year ahead to ensure that South Wales is truly proud of our investment and charitable giving to such a worthy cause. I am pleased to note that we continue to see increased donations to charity via use of Gift Aid and once again urge you to please go back to your Chapters and use Gift Aid envelopes at all of your Convocations.

We have continued to improve the breadth of communication platforms available to the membership and potential membership. After 2 highly successful years, I thank E.Comp. John Purchase for all of his enthusiasm in this role and wish him well as he hands over the communications brief to E.Comp. Karl Frowen, who brings with him a wide variety of technical skills and boundless enthusiasm.

In the year ahead, I will visit (together with Members of the Executive) the Officers of Supreme Grand Chapter, in all 4 Quarters of the Provincial estate. I am more convinced than ever (even before the full effects of our closure due to COVID 19 are known) that we must work harder together with those who manage our meeting places to ensure that we enjoy a viable and productive future. The quality and cost-effectiveness of our Masonic Centres will no doubt provide a stimulating topic of conversation for us all to engage with.

I wish to openly thank all the 161 Lodges for embracing the role of the Lodge Royal Arch Representative and I pay tribute to our RA Membership Officer, EComp Simon Daniel, for his hard work. Later this year, I will meet all of the Exaltees in a convivial setting to gauge how they are settling in. Please remember Companions, we should be looking at what is the right Chapter for them, which may not necessarily be the closest Chapter aligned with their individual Mother Lodge. I cannot overstate that it is imperative that the Craft Royal Arch Representatives have an opportunity to speak at our Lodge meetings, and I am grateful to the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master for his full support and leadership in this aim.

You will have noted in the Provincial Grand Registrar's presentation, that (prior to the suspension of Masonic activity) we have continued to enjoy increased growth in both Members and Memberships. Well done to all of you for encouraging our friends to join our ranks and indeed, rejoice. Fully embracing the membership Pathway and by the Royal Arch Provincial Membership Officer, working ever closer with the Craft Provincial Membership Officer, we have been able to focus strongly on increasing the conversion rate of Craft Masons becoming members of the Royal Arch, to over 40%. No doubt, we all know a Companion whose membership has lapsed, whom we can invite to visit our Chapters again once, with a view to encourage re-engagement.

Involving the Craft Membership, as well as Royal Arch Companions, in my "Conversation with the membership" has produced fruit and is helping to provide evidence-based data in support of which decisions to take in our planning and management of the work. I can today advise you that each of our 69 Scribes E. will receive a hard copy of the 2020 – 2021 Provincial Year Book, as well as all our membership having direct access via the Website. I know this is something that you feel strongly about.

During this difficult year, I am also delighted to announce that Province will show consistency with the Craft and we will suspend Provincial charges for Exaltees and any Dispensations required. The ProvGSE is there to guide you all, as we move towards a resumption of full Masonic activity.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my term of office as First Principal of Hendre Chapter and Lord Swansea Chapter and again unashamedly recommend to all of you Installed First Principals to consider joining Hendre and Lord Swansea Chapters, where you will receive the warmest of welcomes. At the Election Convocations, we were able to revisit our close affinity and support of the progressive Orders and Degrees; remembering our membership of other Orders and Degrees is to be celebrated and supported.

As we look back over the last year, with great pride in our Active Provincial Officers we now look forward to those whom will from today, deliver and maintain the highest standards delivered by our predecessors and expected by our generation.

I am so sorry that I am unable to personally invest you today. However, please wear your new rank with great pride and know that on behalf of the Province we offer our personal congratulations to you together with huge gratitude to all those who have made today's appointments and promotions such a success and in particular, the Provincial Grand Scribe E, Provincial Deputy Grand Scribe E, the Office Team Volunteers. The ProvGDC looks forward to seeing all you Active officers, shortly, for training and support to ensure you feel comfortable and confident in your new roles.

One change for Active officers to note is that when attending Installations (or in an official capacity) the Provincial Officers on duty will no longer wear white gloves, other than the Provincial Grand Sword Bearers. Of course individual Chapters will no doubt continue with their particular custom and practice, as will Provincial Officers when attending privately.

Companions, your spirit & enthusiasm is infectious and I pray you all keep safe and well and I look forward to your company, hopefully not too long away!



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