

# *The Ancient & Accepted Rite*



## **District of Worcestershire The District Diary ~ Edition 20 ~ Christmas 2024**

This District Diary is for distribution by the Chapter Recorder to all Chapter members either by email or sent as hard copy by post.

### **1. Introduction**



**By our INSPECTOR GENERAL  
V.: III.: Bro Ian M Fothergill, 33°**

Dear and beloved Brethren,

As we come towards the end of what has been a tumultuous year for our Order, I beg your indulgence to look back from whence we have come.

It is now some 13 months since I found myself promoted from District Recorder to be the head of our beautiful Order in the District of Worcestershire and experience not only the honour and dignity of such a position, but to find myself leading the District into the changes to our ritual introduced by the Supreme Council which did cause anguish and the very sad loss of some well-known members. However, we must look forward, continue to enjoy the friendship and

camaraderie and future development of this beautiful Order of ours.

The picture above is of the Silver Box presented to me by the Sovereign Grand Commander on behalf of the members of the Supreme Council at what has been one of my most notable days in Freemasonry, my Installation at Kings Heath on 2<sup>nd</sup> February, with the most wonderful support I received from you.

This season has started well with two Perfection Ceremonies and three Enthronements. To the new members I wish you a long, happy, and enjoyable career in our Order and to those who now hold the Office of Most Wise Sovereign a most enjoyable term of office and hopefully with candidates to Perfect.

In conclusion I must thank my District Recorder, III. Bro. "Taff" for his excellent support and congratulate all those who have already received or are to receive promotions in the New Year.

May you and your nearest and dearest enjoy all the joys of the Festive Season and I look forward to seeing you all at some stage in the New Year.

*Ian*

## 2. Supreme Council

### Notification of Promotion



It is with great pleasure we announce the forthcoming promotions to the 31°, to become effective on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025:

- Ill.:Bro Lindsay D Hill (Taff) - our sedulous District Recorder.
- Ill.:Bro Stephen J Wyer - our dedicated Provincial Grand Master/MEGS.
- Ill.:Bro Gordon Stacey.

**And**, receiving promotion to the 30°, also on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025:

- E&P Bro Mark Hudson.
- E&P Bro Richard Noakes.

We send our heartiest congratulations to them all.



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### Majestic Monday



On Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September two Candidates and six supporters, including the IG and DR, set out in a minibus for the Grand East. This included a comfort break at Beaconsfield Services where they enjoyed a delightful picnic lunch courtesy of Ill.:Bro Simon and Kirsty Jinks.

After booking in at Number 10, we all retired for refreshment to the Cavendish Hotel courtesy of the IG, to enjoy a pre-meeting drink.

As always, the Supreme Council conducted a first-class ceremony, on completion of which the assembled company retired to Mark Masons Hall and enjoyed a quality evening meal.

Whilst there are tales to tell regarding our return journey, they will be kept "sub rosa."

It was an excellent day out and we congratulate Ill.:Bro's Stan Brotherton and Bill Tucker on receiving their well-earned promotions.

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## 3. The District



### In Memorium

It is with great sadness that we record the passing to the Grand Chapter Above of the following brethren since the last newsletter was published:

- Ill.:Bro R Shays 30° - September 2024
- Ill.:Bro D J L Allen 30° - October 2024
- Ill.:Bro G A Aldrich 31° - October 2024
- Ill.:Bro J S Rogers 30° - October 2024
- Ill.:Bro M A Midgley 30° - October 2024
- Ill.:Bro P R Cox 31° - November 2024

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### WONDROUS WEDNESDAY



On Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July some 120 brethren, including the Most Illustrious Bro. James A F Thom, KC, 33°, Grand Chamberlain, and the Inspectors General from Berkshire, Derbyshire, South Wales and Monmouthshire and the Past Inspector General for Bedford & Hertfordshire, together with the District IG, attended the KEVII Chapter of Improvement Demonstration of the 17°, at Freemasons Hall, Kings Heath, hosted by the MRCCI and with members of Worcestershire assisting in the ceremony as four of the "Ancients".

The meeting was opened by the Chairman of the KEVII Chapter of Improvement Ill. Bro. P. Brockbank who explained what was about to take place. Then the Demonstration Team, including the Worcestershire contingent, took

their places. There then followed a very interesting and full demonstration of the Degree ritual for a Knight of the East & West. It was interesting to note that on several occasions there was clear reference to ritual in other Companion Orders.

On completion of the Ceremony the Grand Chamberlain gave a vote of thanks to the demonstration team which was greeted with extended acclaim.

Some 113 members in attendance then retired to enjoy a convivial drinks reception followed by a very enjoyable Dinner in the Refectory.

Yet again members of the District of Worcestershire and visitors enjoyed a wonderful evening of Rose Croix Masonry.

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### **Halesowen Chapter RC No 615 Sunday Lunch**



### **Another Successful Sunday at Halesowen Chapter**

On Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June the members of Halesowen Chapter held another very successful Sunday Lunch at Newfields, with some 48 members, their partners and guests in attendance.

Following an excellent 3 Course meal the assembled company were enthralled by a first-class presentation by Dr. Kate Round, PhD, who is an outreach presenter and tour guide for Dudley Museum Service. Her knowledge and delivery of the history of glass making back to the 8<sup>th</sup> Century BC, and its development, focusing on and tracing the roots of Stourbridge glassmakers, was both fascinating and very informative.

We must remember of course that the Masonic Centre, formerly the Carlisle Hall in Victoria Street, Stourbridge, is dedicated; thanks to a most generous donation from the widow, Mrs Constance Webb; to James S Webb, a renown Stourbridge glassmaker.

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## **Chapter Support**

From time to time some of our chapters unfortunately find themselves with reduced numbers. This sometimes results in a chapter being unable to fill key offices, or maybe just unavailable for a particular meeting and there are no other officers available to 'stand in'.

On occasions, some chapters also experience difficulty in filling all the offices generally, and may need assistance to perform ceremonies.

In times of difficulty when trying to coordinate our meetings, please consider seeking assistance from members of the Midlands Rose Croix Chapter of Improvement (MRCCI).

Please contact Ill.: Bro Charles Dyer 32°, [chazdyer@yahoo.com](mailto:chazdyer@yahoo.com) who is the MRCCI Preceptor who will be only too pleased to call upon his team to offer all the necessary support that he can.

It is of course so important to maintain as high a standard of ritual as possible at our meetings, particularly to impress a new candidate and visitors. Using outside assistance should be seen as a sign of strength and not a weakness.

Additionally, if you are able to visit any chapter, please contact Chapter Recorders direct and offer offer any support to them if you can. They will be so pleased to book you in.

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## **4. Chapters**

### **Breme Chapter RC No 862**



Picking up from where we left off..... Being the last Chapter to meet at the end of last season and the first Chapter to meet in the new season, Breme Chapter met for their 129<sup>th</sup> Regular meeting on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024. With batteries fully recharged, the main item on the Agenda was the Perfection of Bro Phillip Butler, a Past Master of Page Lodge No 3378. And what a super evening it was for the 22 members including 8 Visitors present.....

The MWS, E&P Bro Richard Noakes 18°, opened the Chapter, proved the Minutes of the previous meeting, conducted a Ballot (for Perfection), and then proceeded to confer the Intermediate Degrees.

III.:Bro K Parkes 30°, conducted the 1<sup>st</sup> Point in his customary delightful manner, with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Point shared seamlessly by the MWS and E&P Bro A Lewis 18°, who again impressed with his word-perfect delivery in presenting the Collar & Signs. The Candidate was also 'suitable cared for and directed' by both the Marshal & Raphael throughout.

The MWS declared that he would continue as the MWS for a second year, and then also declared that III.:Bro N J Evans 30°, would continue as Treasurer. On completion of the Third Point, the MWS closed the Chapter, and a fine dinner was enjoyed by all in the Refectory during which III.:Bro K Parkes gave a delightful explanation of the Fire.

Unfortunately, the Inspector General was unable to attend the meeting due to being 'Hors de Combat' following an operation the previous week. He will be undoubtedly pleased with the number of Visitors that supported the Chapter, and that a total of 8 Red Collars present.

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**V.: III.: Bro. Stephen W Fowler 33°.  
The Inspector General  
for the District of Warwickshire**

On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at the Warwickshire Chapter RC No 483, the V.: III.:Bro Stephen W Fowler 33°, received his Patent extension of a further 5 years in a delightful meeting 'full of pomp & ceremony.' The hugely impressive Freemasons Hall location of Alderson House in Warwick was chosen to mark the occasion.

The Patent was presented by the M.: III.: Bro Sir Andrew Parmley, *FRCO* 33°, Grand Captain General, who made the occasion extra special with his charm and infectious humour.

V.: III.: Bro Stephen W Fowler 33°, is of course also a member of St Francis of Assisi

Chapter RC No 711, and Worcestershire Chapter RC No 970. On behalf of all the members of the District of Worcestershire, we are so pleased to see you continue as the Inspector General of Warwickshire, and we wish you a happy and enjoyable further 5 years.

Also on the meeting Agenda was a guided commentary & demonstration of the Ceremony of Perfection by the Midlands Rose Croix Chapter of Improvement (MRCCI). The demonstration was once again very well received by all, and for most of the members present, was the first time they had seen the Revised Ritual performed. A big thank you to III.:Bro Charles Dyer 32°, Preceptor of the MRCCI for coordinating another successful event.

A fine dinner was enjoyed by all in the Refectory following the meeting and all that remains to be said is "what a fantastic evening".

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**Bordesley Abbey Chapter RC No 918**



On Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2024 eleven members and visitors including the Inspector General and District Recorder met at Freemasons Hall, Redditch to welcome Bro Paul Erasmus Blackband-Hibbert into our beautiful Order.

The MWS, E&P Bro Stephen Roadly, 18°, received the Inspector General and tried his best to persuade him to occupy the Chair and take the baton. The Inspector General received the baton from the MWS and following a few kind words of thanks, returned the baton as he would prefer the MWS to conduct his meeting.

Well, two in two. Two Perfection ceremonies in two consecutive meetings, that is what we like to see!

The ballot proving favourable to the Candidate, the brethren proceeded to confer the Intermediate Degrees, which were proficiently delivered by the Chapter Recorder, III.:Bro William Roberts 30°. The MWS



conducted the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Points, and with great confidence and bearing of the Candidate, the Marshal, Ill.:Bro Derek Taylor 30°, and Raphael, E&P Bro Stephen Moody 18° ensured a seamless journey. The Marshal completed the 2<sup>nd</sup> Point by explaining the Collar & Signs.

The MWS conducted the 3<sup>rd</sup> Point and closed the Chapter.

Due to circumstances beyond the control of the Chapter with reference to the catering department, no dining took place at the Hall. The Refectory took the form of a local Indian restaurant, and a lovely meal was had by all.

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### St Ann of Malvern Chapter RC No 606



On Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024 members of the Order including the Inspector General and District Recorder, met at Rainbow Hill.

The Most Wise Sovereign Ill.:Bro Maurice A. Hume, 32°, was unavoidably absent for the evening and the District Recorder was asked to act as the MWS. It was an honour and a privilege for him to do so.

After singing the opening hymn, the MWS in the Chair opened the Chapter.

The main event of the evening was to receive a 'Talk of Masonic interest'. A 'Potpourri' of relevant information specific to the 18°, was presented by the V.:Ill.:Bro Ian Fothergill 33°, Inspector General of the District of Worcestershire. The talk was interesting and informative which was well received by all present.

The Third Point was conducted by the Inspector General and MWS in the Chair closed the Chapter and everyone departed in peace and harmony.

The evening was relatively short but very, very enjoyable indeed.

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### St. Francis of Assisi Chapter RC No 711



Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2024 was a very special day for the Chapter in general, and Ill.:Bro Gerry Jinks 32°, and Ill.:Bro Simon Jinks 30°, in particular. The 157<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Chapter witnessed the most wonderfully conducted ceremony as the MWS, Ill.:Bro Gerry Jinks 32°, had the pleasure of Enthroning his son, Ill.:Bro Simon Jinks 30°, as Most Wise Sovereign. Not something witnessed very often!



The V.:Ill.:Bro I M Fothergill 33°, Inspector General, V.:Ill.:Bro S W Fowler 33°, (Chapter member), Inspector General for the District of Warwickshire and V.:Ill.:Bro Dr R N Hoare 33°, (Chapter member), Former Inspector General of Worcestershire, all those present were treated to a ceremony of the highest quality.

*Following the Opening Hymn, the Prelate gave the Chapter Prayer for St Francis of Assisi.*

After opening the Chapter and confirming the Minutes of the previous meeting, the MSW Enthroned his successor with the knowledge that the Chapter was in good hands. The 'New' MWS appointed and invested his officers, and the Inspector General delivered the Address to the Chapter with his delightful enthusiasm.

The high quality of ritual on show did not stop there as, at the end of the Enthronement, two members of the Chapter delivered elements of the 18°, Ceremony of Perfection. E&P Bro R Pinner 18°, presented the Intermediate Degrees, and E&P N Nicholls presented the Collar & Signs. Both were faultless with their delivery for which they can be proud.

On completion of the Third Point the members retired to the Refectory to enjoy a rather substantial 3 course lunch. A fantastic meeting and great company enjoyed by all.

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## Worcestershire Chapter RC No 970



On Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2024, Worcestershire Chapter 970 hosted the first 'District Annual Meeting' at Rainbow Hill Freemasons Hall, and what a day to remember.

Ill.:Bro Martyn Hardeman 30°, the MWS, opened the Chapter and awaited the DC to instruct the brethren to rise to receive the M.:Ill.:Bro The Rev'd Dr S A Thorn 33°, Grand Prior, accompanied by the Inspectors General for Worcestershire; Gloucester & Herefordshire; and South Wales & Monmouthshire. Not forgetting of course that the Inspector General for Warwickshire, V.:Ill.:Bro Stephen Fowler 33°, being a member and 2<sup>nd</sup> General of the Chapter. All four IG's were also accompanied by their respective District Recorders.

It has all the ingredients to be a great morning and afternoon!!!

After welcoming the Grand Prior and all the other visitors, the MWS invited the Inspector General, V.:Ill.:Bro Ian Fothergill 33°, to occupy the Chair. A eulogy was then given by the MWS in respect of Ill.:Bro Jonathan Swift 30°, who had sadly passed to the Grand Chapter Above since our last meeting. The Inspector General then asked the District Recorder to read the names of those brethren in the District who had Passed to the Grand Chapter Above during the period 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023 and 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024. The Prelate then recited a solemn prayer for the departed brethren whilst the Organist played 'The Day thou Gavest' quietly in the background.

After confirming and approving the Minutes of the previous meeting, the Minutes were duly signed by the IG, Grand Prior and the MWS.

The IG requested that the Muster Roll of all Chapters were present, and the DR was pleased to confirm that all Chapters in the District were indeed represented.

The DR then presented an annual report which included details of all District Perfections, Resignations, recipients of 50 Year certificates and all the 'special events' during the period 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023 and 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

After handing the Chair back to the MWS, the IG asked the DR to name all those who were promoted to the Higher Degrees between 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023 and 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024. As the DR called out their names, the brethren fell into line in the north and the IG, escorted by the DC, congratulated each and every brother individually and shook their hands.

The MWS continued with the Agenda and last, but certainly not least, announced the highlight of the day - a presentation by the M.:Ill.:Bro The Rev'd Dr S A Thorn 33°, Grand Prior entitled '**1786 and all that**'. The talk was beautifully constructed, entertaining and so informative which was just what everyone needed to fully appreciate the recent changes to our ritual. The Chapter then gave a resounding vote of thanks to the Grand Prior. I am sure the contents of the talk continued in all our minds on the journey home.

The IG conducted the Third Point and the MWS closed the Chapter and everyone retired to the Refectory for prosecco & orange juice reception before settling down to a delightful lunch. The IG had great pleasure in presenting the Grand Prior with a large bottle of Worcestershire's finest, and a set of six Royal Worcester Evesham Gold porcelain napkin rings as a token of his thanks.

What a fantastic meeting!!!



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## Gervase Paganel Chapter RC No 316



The Chapter met on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2024 with E&P Bro P Connor 18°, the MWS warmly welcoming the Inspector General and his District Recorder. The MWS endeavoured to hand his baton and Chair to the IG, but was met with the IG's standard, polite rejection.....

The MWS Opened the Chapter, confirmed and approved the previous meeting Minutes, which he and the IG duly signed.

The next item on the Agenda was to demonstrate parts of the ceremony of Perfection focusing on the Second Point in particular. With Ill.: Bro M Tonkin 31°, acting as the Candidate, the MWS directed him through the ladder and exchanged the Word in an excellent manner. The IG had the pleasure of giving the Accolade and the DR equally pleased to present the Emblems and Signs. The Candidate was directed with confidence throughout by Raphael & the Marshal.

The remainder of the business and the Third Point was carried out by the MWS as per the 2024 Ritual, and after the closing of the Chapter, members retired to enjoy a super dinner in the Refectory.

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### Evesham Chapter RC No 994



On Thursday 17th October 2024 the Chapter gathered at their Swan Lane home. The Inspector General was warmly welcomed into the Chapter by the MWS, E&P Bro S Hillard 18°, who, with due respect to his obligation, offered the Inspector General his Chair and Baton. The Inspector General thanked the MWS for his generosity however politely declined the kind offer.....

In somewhat unusual circumstances and a first for the Chapter, the MWS confirmed the Minutes of the Officers and Past Sovereigns meeting and the Enthronement meetings held in June, which were both upon approval, signed by the MWS & IG.

After appointing and investing three Officers who were not present at the Enthronement meeting, The Chapter carried out a 'practice' Perfection ceremony with Ill.: Bro M Tonkin 31°, again acting as Candidate for the evening..... E&P Bro J Battell 18°, Second General carried out a word perfect and impressive delivery of the Intermediate degrees. The MWS conducted the First Point with confidence, and the DR conducted the

Second Point with the IG giving the Accolade. E&P Bro W Duthie 18°, (Marshal) and E&P Bro P Emmerson 18°, (Raphael) gave assured performances of their duties in both rooms. This being the first time of asking. Well done!!!

On completion of the Third Point and closing the Chapter, members and guests retired to the Refectory to enjoy a rather plentiful and wholesome 3 course dinner.

During the formal part of the dinner, Ill.: Bro S Brotherton 30°, received a toast acknowledging his recent promotion to the 30°.

Another lovely evening had by all.

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### St. Nicolas Chapter RC No 198



The Chapter met on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2024 for their Enthronement meeting. The MWS, Ill.: Bro David Craig 30°, welcomed the Inspector General into the Chapter and offered him his Baton to which the IG politely declined, saying that he (the MWS) had probably prepared for the Enthronement better than he had done so himself..... Upon opening the Chapter, The Acting Recorder read the Dispensation authorising the change of date for the meeting.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were relayed to those present and were duly approved by the members and signed for by the MWS and IG respectively.

Following the Treasurers and Almoners reports, everyone present enjoyed the excellent Enthronement of Ill.: Bro Stephen M Middleditch 31°, as the new MWS. The MWS appointed and invested those present with the authority of their respective offices for the ensuing year. The IG then gave the Address to the Chapter to complete the Enthronement.

At the previous meeting of the Chapter in May 2024, the members proposed and agreed to amend their By-Laws to reflect a reduction of their meetings from three meetings a year, to two. The revised By-Laws document was signed by the MWS, Recorder and the IG

before being handed to the District Recorder for onward transmission to the Supreme Council 33°, for them to further approve and sanction the changes.

Upon completing the Third Point, the MWS closed the Chapter and the rest of the evening spent in Harmony and Brotherly Love in the Refectory to enjoy a hearty meal.

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### St Dunstan Chapter RC No 12



On Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2024, nineteen members and visitors including the Inspector General and District Recorder assembled at Worcester Masonic Centre for a rehearsal of the Perfection ceremony.

The IG was escorted into the lodge room by the DC and the MWS tried his best to tempt the IG to occupy his Chair for the evening. As always, the IG made a most gracious refusal informing the MWS that he had come to observe his work.

After singing the opening hymn and opening the Chapter, the members present confirmed and approved the Minutes of the previous meeting, which were duly signed by the MWS & IG respectively. The Recorder then proceeded to read the Minutes of their Regular meeting of 100 years ago.

The Chapter then carried out an impressive rehearsal of the Perfection ceremony. Apart from the acting Marshal for the evening, all those that took part in the ceremony were members of the 18°, which is very encouraging for the Chapter. It was once again, very pleasing indeed to see half of those present wearing Red collars.

Having presented both the First & Second Point himself, the MWS conducted Third Point. The MWS closed the Chapter, and everyone retired to the Refectory to enjoy a lovely meal and in such good company.

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### St Mary & All Saints Chapter RC No 688



On Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024, 18 members including the Inspector General and District Recorder were warmly welcomed to the Chapter. It might have been Halloween in the big wide world outside, but there were certainly no horrors on show at Stourport Freemasons Hall!!!

The MWS, III.:Bro C Hart 30°, opened the Chapter and after confirming the Minutes of the previous meeting, the Chapter Officers demonstrated the Second Point, with an added commentary high lighting the recent changes to the ritual. An excellent initiative and will give them all added confidence for when they are to Perfect their next new member.

The MWS completed the remainder of the business, carried out the Third Point and Closed the Chapter. Everyone then retired to the Refectory to enjoy a hearty dinner completing a super evening. For some, it was the second meeting and dining of the day.....

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### Halesowen Chapter RC No 615



On Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024 the Inspector General and District Recorder received a warm welcome to the Chapter for their Enthronement meeting. A wonderful twenty seven members and visitors were present, nine visitors making their way from the deepest south of the District - Evesham No 994.....

Immediately after Opening the Chapter, a moment of silence and reflection was observed for the departure of III.: Bro Douglas J L Allen 30°, who had recently passed to the Grand Chapter Above.

Following the confirmation of the Minutes of the 175<sup>th</sup> meeting, a ballot was held for three unattached joining members from St Edmund



King and Martyr Chapter No 730, which unfortunately had to surrender their Warrant in May this year. The ballot proved successful for all three, and the Chapter looks forward to their continued support.

III.:Bro Robert Bennett 30°, was then Enthroned the MWS of the Chapter in a very impressive manner by III.: Bro Godfrey Harper 31°. After appointing and investing his officers, the IG gave the Address to the Chapter, completing a super Enthronement ceremony.

The Enthronement might have been the high light of the evening for a majority of those present, but the evening for the nine Evesham Chapter members got even better. Halesowen Chapter No 615 were the 'holders' of the much-treasured Travelling Apron, but the huge support from the Evesham mafia ensured that possession of the apron is now firmly transferred to their care. Great support from all the visitors in attendance, but well done Evesham.

During Propositions, the Recorder announced that there was to be another member of St Edmund King & Martyr to join, **and** that there was a candidate for Perfection in progress. Fantastic news indeed.

Following the Third Point and closing the Chapter, everyone retired to the Refectory. Another fine dinner in super company was enjoyed by all.

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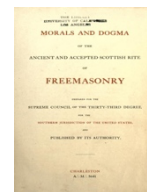
### Oldswinford Chapter RC No 908

Oldswinford Chapter Rose Croix  
No 908



On Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2024 some 17 members of the Order, including the Inspector General attended the James S Webb Masonic Centre in Stourbridge for their first meeting of the new season.

The main items of Business on the Agenda was a talk by the Most Wise Sovereign, E & P Bro J G Randle 18°, based on excerpts he had taken from the book "Morals & Dogma" written by a former Sovereign Grand Commander of the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States in the mid 1800's.



This was followed by the Inspector General presenting his recently Supreme Council approved paper:

*"WHY DID OUR ORDER REMOVE THE REQUIREMENT OF SWEARING ALLEGIANCE TO THE TRINITARIAN FAITH"*

This was compiled following the visit of the Grand Prior to Worcestershire Chapter No. 970 in early November.

There then followed an interesting Question & Answer Session with an interesting input from the Chapter Prelate III.:Bro Revd. Father Justin Parker 30°.

Following the Third Point and Closure of the Chapter, 15 Brethren retired to the Refectory to enjoy a very convivial Dinner.

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### Dates for your Diary

#### King Edward VII Rose Croix Chapter of Improvement



The next demonstration by the King Edward VII Chapter of Improvement, whose mission is to encourage and assist members with their Rose Croix ritual, will take place at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London. WC2B 5AZ on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

The demonstration on this occasion will be the 4° & 5°, (Secret Master & Perfect Master). Further details are to be confirmed.

Read more about the KEVII Chapter of Improvement via the following link:

<https://kevii.org.uk>

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#### Editors Footnote:

If anyone has an item they believe to be of interest please forward it to the District Recorder; Ill. Bro. Lindsay (Taff) Hill 31°-elect, at: [taff.hill@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:taff.hill@yahoo.co.uk)

Don't forget to visit the District website.

[www.rose-croix-worcs.masonicwebsite.org](http://www.rose-croix-worcs.masonicwebsite.org)

## Inspector General's Christmas Message 2024

As we enter the period of Advent and the build-up to the annual celebrations with friends and family, let us consider the word **Charity**.

**Charity** is the act of extending love and kindness to others unconditionally, which is a conscious act, but the decision is made by the heart, without expecting a reward.

The word **charity** comes from the French word *carité* and was first used in Middle English, around 1154. The meaning of **charity** has evolved over time, from "Christian love" to "providing for those in need".

Some synonyms of charity include clemency, grace, leniency, and mercy.

In the Bible, **charity** is a virtue that is described as patient, kind, and forgiving. It is also a translation of the Greek word *agapē*, which means "love".

Here are some Bible verses that discuss **charity**:

- **1 Corinthians 13**: Describes charity as patient, kind, and forgiving, and says that it never fails.

- **Matthew 5:44, 46**: Jesus teaches to love enemies, bless those who curse, and do good to those who hate.
- **Matthew 18:33 - 35**: Jesus teaches that if people do not forgive others, their Father in Heaven will not forgive them.
- **Proverbs 11:25**: Says that a generous person will prosper.
- **Psalms 37:21**: Says that the righteous give generously.
- **Matthew 6:3-4**: Says that when giving to the needy, people should do so in secret.
- **Proverbs 31:9**: Says to speak up and judge fairly, and to defend the rights of the poor and needy.

In Christian theology, the life, teachings, and death of Jesus of Nazareth. are considered to be the most eloquent examples of **charity**.

- The Bible describes God as loving the stranger, executing justice for the fatherless and widow, and giving food and clothing.

The Greek word *agape*, which means "love", is translated as "**charity**" in the King James Version of the Bible 26 times.

**And finally....** - the word **charity** appears not once, but 19 times during your Perfection into our truly beautiful Order. You may also recall the following passage given to you by the Prelate after finding the three fundamental principles of our Order and being led from the depths of darkness to the Mansions of Light.

*"For Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. Hope maketh not ashamed. **Charity** suffereth long and is kind; **Charity** envieth not, **Charity** vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil, rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things. Endureth all things. **Charity** never faileth; but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away; for we know in part, and we prophesy in part; but when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away".*

Let us therefore seek to follow these examples and set ourselves a New Year promise to be charitable to all those with whom we come in to contact and those in need.

May I wish you, your families and all those whom you know and love a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

*Ian*



### **Christmas Greetings**

*Wishing You and Yours all the  
compliments of the Season*

*From*

*Ian & Irene, Taff & Donna*