

A Message from our Provincial Grand Summus

Greetings Companions and welcome to the second edition of the Surrey Cord.

I trust you had a very happy, enjoyable and peaceful Easter and are looking forward to getting back to normal Freemasonry as soon as possible.

I am sure that when that happens it is bound to seem strange initially but I am sure that after a few meetings the past year will be history and forgotten. Dare I suggest that a look at the ritual book now could be very helpful when we eventually get back to normality!!

As you are well aware this will very much depend upon any relaxation of the Government Lockdown Restrictions when we reach certain specified dates. Restrictions were eased on 29th March so that outdoor gatherings are now allowed in groups of up to six. I must say that two days later having spotted pictures of packed beaches and parks throughout the country in National Newspapers I was somewhat alarmed. However, I will remain optimistic and I am looking forward to further Government Roadmap updates due on 12th April, 17th May, and 21st June, when if circumstances continue to improve as it is hoped goodness knows what might happen!!

I am sure that many of our Companions will have received the communication from the United Grand Lodge of England about Government restrictions and options for the resumption of Craft and Royal Arch Meetings in the next few months. In fact Surrey Province appears to be first off the grid, having arranged for both Provincial Chapter and Provincial Craft Meetings to take place on Wednesday 14th July at Croydon Masonic Centre which I hope to attend.

I received a letter from the Grand Recorder at Mark Masons Hall on 29th March advising that no decision has been taken by them as to whether meetings in their Orders will resume in May or later. They are waiting to hear the content of the Government's next roadmap update due on 12th April before commenting further

I am happy to report however that plans to hold our Annual Provincial Meeting at Surbiton on Thursday 15th July are progressing. The active Provincial Grand Officers for 2021-2022 have been finalised and the Provincial Grand Recorder will be sending out the appointment letters very shortly. If all goes well with the next two Government roadmap updates then there is a good possibility that 15th July will be the date but if problems arise we do have two further options. We could change of course to a Virtual Business Meeting on the same date or secondly, we have a provisional booking at Surbiton for Saturday 25th September 2021 so watch this space!! I would expect to have a better idea after 17th May.

We will also be holding a Preparation Ceremony before the Guildford Consistory Meeting on Thursday 28th October 2021.



The Preparation Ceremony is for candidates who are about to be installed as President of their Consistory. In it they are prepared for the rank of High Priest and Judge, a fellow of our Ancient Order and then become qualified to be installed as President of a regular Consistory.

Any Companion who is likely to be installed in the next two years should either contact their Consistory Recorder or the Provincial Recorder

My best wishes to you all. Stay safe and keep well.

Rt. Dist. Comp. Arnold Long, Provincial Grand Summus

Warlingham Consistory Virtual Business Meeting

The first Virtual Business Meeting of a Surrey Consistory took place at Warlingham Consistory No 134 on Tuesday 30th March.

The Conclave was opened by the Presiding Officer, R. Dist. Comp. Michael Barnes, Past Provincial Grand Summus, President. The Recorder, Comp. Alastair Richardson read the Letter of Permission to hold the meeting and the Dispensation.



The Presiding Officer welcomed all our guests and visitors, especially R. Dist. Comp. Arnold Long our Provincial Grand Summus, a member of the Consistory, and Dist Comp Colin M Beerling the Provincial Grand Supreme Ruler of the Provincial Grand Conclave of Surrey. This was the first time they had both attended a Scarlet Cord meeting together since their installations.

After the minutes had been approved and the accounts received the Companions voted to re-elect four candidates to be received as Companions of the Order, First Grade, as soon as meetings are resumed.

The Presiding Officer thanked everyone for attending a most enjoyable meeting and declared the meeting closed.

The Consistory meeting was followed by a meeting of the Warlingham Conclave No 291.

Provincial Annual Meeting 2021

Subject to Government guidelines and instructions from Mark Masons' Hall we hope to be able to hold our Provincial Meeting at Surbiton in the morning of Thursday 15th July 2021.

Our Provincial Grand Summus is looking forward to being able to invest his Officers, something he has been unable to do in person since his investiture by the M. Dist. Grand Summus back in July 2020.

Visits around the Provinces and Districts

Following the suspension of Masonic activity in 2020 the first Virtual Business Meeting of a Scarlet Cord Province was our Annual Meeting in July 2020. Attending the meeting was the Grand Summus, M.Dist.Comp. Ian Stanley Currans, and over 170 Companions from all across the world. Since then many Provinces and Districts have held successful Virtual Business Meetings. These have been well supported by the Grand Summus, our Provincial Grand Summus and a number of Surrey Companions.

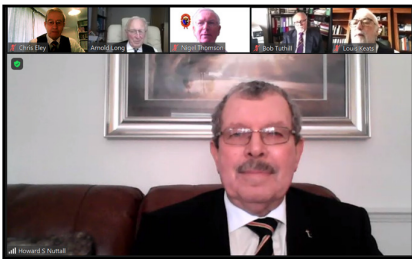


The first of these was to the Annual Meeting of the District Grand Senatus of Southern India in August 2020. Attending was the Grand Summus, M.Dist.Comp. Ian Stanley Currans, the Grand Recorder, R.Dist.Comp. Ryan Williams, and 150 Delegates from other Districts and Provinces. After the conclusion of the Annual Meeting the Grand Summus gave a most interesting talk about the revival of the Order of the Scarlet Cord. The talk covered membership and growth of the Order, the Ceremonies of the Order, Regalia, and why members of the Order of Secret Monitor should consider joining.



To view the presentation click here <https://youtu.be/IrwpusfuDCo>

Our next visit was up to the Provincial Grand Senatus of East Lancashire. Attending the meeting was the Grand Summus, M.Dist.Comp. Ian Stanley Currans; Deputy Grand Summus, R.Dist.Comp. Francis Charles Spencer; Assistant Grand Summus, R.Dist.Comp Howard Saul Markham; and the Grand Recorder, R.Dist.Comp. Ryan A Williams.



From Surrey there was our Provincial Grand Summus, R.Dist. Comp. Arnold Long; Past Provincial Grand Summus, R.Dist. Comp. Louis Keats; Deputy Provincial Grand Summus, Dist. Comp. Nigel Thomson; Past Deputy Provincial Grand Summus, Dist. Comp. Ian Smith; and our Provincial Grand Recorder, Em.Comp. Chris Eley.

At the meeting the Grand Summus formally confirmed R.Dist.Comp. Allan Shields as the Provincial Grand Summus for the Provincial Grand Senatus of East Lancashire. A presentation was made to the Past Provincial Grand Summus, R.Dist. Companion Howard Nuttall, of an engraved decanter, two crystal glasses and a nice bottle of gin with many thanks from the Companions of East Lancashire for all that R.Dist. Companion Howard has done for

the Province while Provincial Grand Summus.

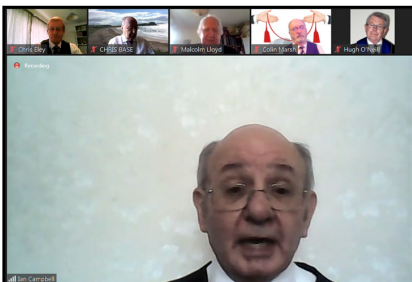
Next was the meeting of the Provincial Grand Senatus of Kent attended once again by the Grand Summus, the Deputy Grand Summus, and the Grand Recorder.

R.Dist. Companion Philip Charles Clare, Provincial Grand Summus of Kent, declared the meeting open and welcomed all the guests and visitors from Grand Senatus, Provincial Grand Senatus and from other Orders within the Province. He congratulated those who have received appointment or promotion in the Provincial Grand Senatus of Kent and addressed Provincial Grand Senatus. He then invited the Grand Summus to address the meeting and then thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed.



It was then down south to the Provincial Grand Senatus of Hampshire, Isle of Wight and the Channel Islands. Attending the meeting was the Grand Summus, M.Dist.Comp. Ian Stanley Currans; the Assistant Grand Summus, R. Dist. Comp. Howard Saul Markham; and the Grand Recorder, R.Dist.Comp. Ryan A Williams.

The meeting was attended by many members of the Provincial Grand Senatus of Hampshire and Isle of Wight, and Provincial Grand Summi and Companions from a number of other Provinces, 100 Companions in all. R.Dist. Comp. Ian Martin Campbell, Provincial Grand Summus of Hampshire and Isle of Wight welcomed all the guests and visitors from Grand Senatus, Provincial Grand Senatus and from other Orders within the Province.



Our last visit was to the Provincial Grand Senatus of Devon & Cornwall which was attended by just over 100 Companions including our Grand Summus, M.Dist.Comp. Ian Stanley Currans; Deputy Grand Summus, R.Dist.Comp. Francis Charles Spencer; Assistant Grand Summus, R.Dist.Comp Howard Saul Markham; the Grand Recorder, R.Dist.Comp. Ryan A Williams; and the Assistant Grand Recorder, Dist.Comp. Dan Heath.

Dist. Companion Kenneth Barrington Chalkley, M.B.E., the Provincial Grand Summus Designate, declared the meeting open and welcomed all present. The Grand Summus addressed the Companions and requested the Grand Recorder to read the Patent of Appointment.

The Grand Summus then formally confirmed R.Dist.Comp. Companion Kenneth Barrington Chalkley, M.B.E., as the Provincial Grand Summus for the Provincial Grand Senatus of Devon and Cornwall. The Provincial Grand Summus congratulated those who have received appointment or promotion in the Provincial Grand Senatus of Devon and Cornwall, addressed Provincial Grand Senatus, thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed.

Not only have these been successful and enjoyable meetings, they have also provided an opportunity to visit other Provinces and Districts that we may not otherwise have had the opportunity to visit.

