



Somerset Provincial Grand Lodge News update

February 10th 2021

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This weeks Solomon nugget

This week Provincial Mentor, Richard Parrish presents '[Operative Mason at Large Part 1](#)'. Taken from UGLE's Solomon web site, it is an exploration of the origins of 'speculative freemasonry' with particular emphasis upon its 'connections' with 'operative masonry' and is the first of a two part presentation. Part 2 next week.

There are a collection of Solomon videos that Richard has produced during the COVID pandemic on the [Provincial Website/Preceptors Corner](#). Start or renew your own Masonic researches by exploring the [Solomon web site](#)



NHS Workers Day - 5th July

The day is planned as a big thank you from communities to social care and frontline workers. Local councils and organisations are being encouraged to organise coinciding events on the day. Grand Lodge are arranging such an event and are looking for information on Freemasons and/or members of their families who have done extraordinary things to support the NHS. Also members who work for the NHS as case studies for possible inclusion in an ITN broadcast on the day. If you know of anyone please contact [Barry Davies, Provincial Communications Officer](#) as soon as possible.

It's happening this evening! The historic links between Craft, Royal Arch and Mark degrees.

W.Bro Tony Harvey PAGDC, the 2012 Prestonian Lecturer will give a Zoom presentation this evening, Wednesday 10th February at 19.00. Over 230 Brethren have registered already for this unique opportunity to receive this most informative talk on the links between Craft, Royal Arch and Mark. You can register your interest in attending via the

Provincial web site. Once registered you will be sent log on details for the meeting.

IMPORTANT - If you are attending this evenings meeting it is essential that you log on with your zoom details prior to 6.45pm. You will be able to log on from 6.20pm.

This talk will be of interest to all Freemasons but I would particularly encourage Master Masons to attend, I'm sure you will find Tony's presentation fascinating.

I look forward to seeing you all there!

Roger Allen, Provincial Grand Secretary

[Register Here](#)



Mobility Equipment - Provincial Almoner

Thanks to advertising the electric mobility vehicles in the newsletter, we have now found homes for both vehicles. We do receive similar vehicles from time to time and other mobility equipment such as stairlifts etc., which can be borrowed free of charge.

If anyone has any large items of equipment such as a scooter that they no longer need, please let [me](#) or [W.Bro Steve Defries](#) know. We will make sure it finds a good home. [Ian Walker](#), Provincial Grand Almoner.



MCF Digital Donations

Digital Donations enable simple cashless payments to Lodge Relief Chests. You can use your own smartphone or computer to make a donation direct to your Lodge Relief Chest. It is likely that some time has passed since you have been able to contribute towards Alms, raffles and social events that would normally form part of your charitable giving. With this in mind, the new Digital Donations system will allow you to donate in a very safe COVID 19 manner which can benefit from the 25% uplift provided by Git Aid.

The major benefits of this new additional approach to our charitable giving are:

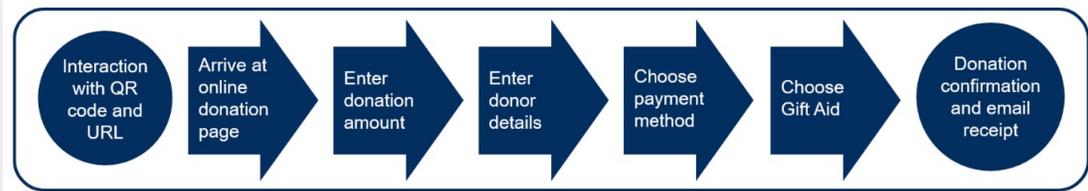
- No need to hold cash or have unnecessary physical contact
- Donate at any time convenient to you
- Donations credited to your Lodge Relief Chest with gift aid
- Fast and simple process
- Email receipts available by request

Please do visit [Information and Resources for Lodge Charity Stewards](#) section of the Provincial web site where you will find further information including videos of how the Digital Donation process works.

In order to make Digital Donations, you will need the dedicated QR (quick response) Code and associated URL (uniform response locator) which your Lodge Charity Steward holds.

Digital Donations is not necessarily a replacement for the way in which you have previously donated money but complimentary to assist meeting your Lodge charitable aims especially in the current environment we all find ourselves living in.

Graham Puddy - Provincial Charity Steward Designate.



Teacher donates £10,000 to school.

Trull School in Taunton have thanked W. Bro Matthew Parrish of Taunton Deane Lodge No. 5221 who has donated in excess of £10,000 to the school fund. Mathew who teaches Karate at the school, is a 4th Dan Shotokan Karate Teacher who is currently studying for his 5th Dan. He is an accomplished fighter as you can see!

[More details](#)

The Road to Recovery?

The rapid rollout of the vaccination programme has drawn my thoughts and hopes towards the eventual resumption of Lodge meetings and the challenges that we may then face. When we are eventually allowed to meet there may be an understandable reluctance by some brethren to attend resulting in reduced numbers and perhaps a skill shortage in some Lodges.

I am forming a Lodge support team whose purpose will be to attend lodges and assist by filling offices, delivering ritual and using Solomon Nuggets to help lodges on their road to recovery.

Lodge secretaries or D.Cs can contact the coordinator, [W Bro Tim Reynolds](#) via e-mail if they are faced with such problems. Tim and I will assemble a team of visitors to attend and assist the Lodge.

Team members will pay their own way, as is the practice on Provincial Fraternal Visits.

If you wish to be considered for inclusion in the team please e-mail me.

[Barry McCormack](#), Provincial Director of Ceremonies

What do you think of our newsletter? We hope that it is keeping you informed about Masonry in our Province but are we missing something? Your suggestions as to how we can improve the service would be much appreciated. Contact us on newsletters@pplsom.org We look forward to hearing from you.

Brethren it's your newsletter, let us know what you think

Provincial News letter previous issues

Did you know that you can see previous editions of Provincial newsletters on the website?

In the Menu, select News then Provincial Email Newsletters, or click [here](#)

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