

The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of England
and Wales and its Districts and Councils Overseas



MINUTES

of the Annual Assembly of Grand Council
held on Tuesday, 18 April 2017 at Freemasons' Hall,
60 Great Queen Street, London, WC2B 5AZ

PRESENT

M.III.Comp. Kessick John Jones
GRAND MASTER

R.III.Comp. His Hon. Ian Douglas Gavin Alexander, QC
DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

R.III.Comp. Lt Col. John Craven Chambers
GRAND PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR OF THE WORK

R.III.Comp. M. E. Herbert, P.Dep.G.M.

R.III.Comp. M. G. Spencer, P.G.P.C.W., O.S.C.M.

CUSTODIANS OF THE NINTH ARCH

R.III.Comp. M. A. Richards, IX

R.III.Comp. S. T. E. Fenn, IX

R.III.Comp. S. S. Beattie, IX

R.III.Comp. A. H. Smith, IX

R.III.Comp. J. D. Phillips, IX

DISTRICT GRAND MASTERS

R.III.Comp. M. B. Jolley District Grand Master for East Midlands

R.III.Comp. J. R. W. Clements District Grand Master for North Midlands

R.III.Comp. S. B. Crutchley.....District Grand Master for Cheshire, Shropshire & North Wales

R.III.Comp. G. J. Deacon..... District Grand Master for Dorset, Hampshire & Isle of Wight

R.III.Comp. C. D. HellyerDistrict Grand Master for Hertfordshire

R.III.Comp. Prof. D. K. WilsonDistrict Grand Master for Durham

R.III.Comp. V. J. Driver District Grand Master for London

R.III.Comp. J. C. JacobsonDistrict Grand Master for Essex

R.III.Comp. N. J. Murzell.....District Grand Master for Oxon, Berkshire & Buckinghamshire

R.III.Comp. J. Harvey.....District Grand Master for Northumberland

R.III.Comp. R. S. C. Mitchell..... District Grand Master for Lancashire

R.III.Comp. D. J. F. Rawlins District Grand Master for Warwickshire

R.III.Comp. D. B. Nelson.....District Grand Master for Somerset & Wiltshire

R.III.Comp. C. G. Lewis	District Grand Master for Middlesex
R.III.Comp. D. J. Blackburn	District Grand Master for Surrey
R.III.Comp. N. T. Woodward	District Grand Master for North & East Yorkshire
R.III.Comp. D. M. Cordell.....	District Grand Master for West Yorkshire
R.III.Comp. J. A. Olszewski.....	District Grand Master for Devon & Cornwall
R.III.Comp. P. T. Coles.....	District Grand Master for East Anglia
R.III.Comp. Dr A. Beckerton.....	District Grand Master for Derbyshire
R.III.Comp. G. H. Jones.....	District Grand Master for South Wales
R.III.Comp. D. G. Sanderson.....	District Grand Master for Cumberland & Westmorland
R.III.Comp. K. L. Downes, <i>JP</i>	District Grand Master for Wyvern
R.III.Comp. T. M. Sharpe	District Grand Master for Kent
R.III.Comp. B. F. Marchant.....	District Grand Master for Sussex

GRAND INSPECTORS

R.III.Comp. A. D. J. Rosser, P.G.Coun.....	Grand Inspector, Channel Islands
R.III.Comp. G. Smith, P.Dist.G.M. (Kent) ..	Grand Inspector, Jamaica & The Cayman Islands

GRAND OFFICERS OF THE YEAR

R.III.Comp. J. E. Vince.....	Grand Councillor
V.III.Comp. L. M. Keats.....	Grand Chaplain
R.III.Comp. R. L. Gan, <i>JP</i> , IX.....	President of the Executive Committee
R.III.Comp. Lt Cdr A. P. D. Hannagan, <i>RD</i> , P.G.Coun.	Grand Recorder
R.III.Comp. P. A. Norman, P.G.Coun.	Grand Director of Ceremonies
V.III.Comp. D. C. Preece, <i>MBE</i>	Grand Lecturer
III.Comp. Revd M. C. G. Lane, <i>JP</i>	Deputy Grand Chaplain
V.III.Comp. R. A. Williams, P.G.D.C.....	Deputy Grand Recorder
III.Comp. P. J. Purves.....	Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies
III.Comp. Dr N. F. J. Scott-Moncrieff.....	Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies
III.Comp. P. E. Ribí	Grand Captain of the Guard
III.Comp. J. C. Roberts, P.G.Capt.Gd.....	Assistant Grand Recorder
III.Comp. K. Mayer	Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies
III.Comp. S. Higson	Grand Sword Bearer
III.Comp. M. C. Newman.....	Grand Standard Bearer
III.Comp. J. H. Hitchin	Grand Organist
III.Comp. W. B. Warlow, P.G.Cond.C.....	Deputy Grand Organist
III.Comp. G. Hughes.....	Grand Steward
III.Comp. S. E. Bell.....	Grand Manciple
III.Comp. G. G. Cheshire.....	Grand Manciple
III.Comp. L. J. Millings, P.A.G.D.C.....	Grand Sentinel

PAST DISTRICT GRAND MASTERS

R.III.Comp. D. I. Williams, P.Dist.G.M., London (1992–2007)
R.III.Comp. M. J. Banbury, P.Dist.G.M., Surrey (1997–2005)
R.III.Comp. N. D. Milburn, P.Dist.G.M., Cumberland & Westmorland (2002–2016)
R.III.Comp. D. Hartley, P.Dist.G.M., Somerset & Wiltshire (2002–2013)
R.III.Comp. W. F. Clemens, P.Dist.G.M., Devon & Cornwall (2003–2013)
R.III.Comp. N. H. Matthews, P.Dist.G.M., South Wales (2003–2015)
R.III.Comp. P. D. Miles, P.Dist.G.M., East Anglia (2003–2014)
R.III.Comp. G. J. Davies, <i>JP</i> , P.Dist.G.M., Lancashire (2004–2013)
R.III.Comp. A. Long, P.Dist.G.M., Surrey (2006–2014)
R.III.Comp. L. E. Bourne, <i>JP</i> , P.Dist.G.M., Wyvern (2006–2016)
R.III.Comp. J. Robson, P.Dist.G.M., Northumberland (2007–2012)
R.III.Comp. D. G. Hugh, P.Dist.G.M., South & East Caribbean (2009–2014)
R.III.Comp. B. C. Wareham, P.Dist.G.M., Sussex (2013–2016)

PAST GRAND CHANCELLORS

R.III.Comp. K. B. Jackson, P.G.Chan.
R.III.Comp. R. V. Wallis, *JP*, P.G.Chan.
R.III.Comp. H. K. Emmerson, P.G.Chan.
R.III.Comp. Dr J. L. W. Wright, *RD*, P.G.Chan.
R.III.Comp. S. M. Ayres, *JP*, P.G.Chan.
R.III.Comp. H. Gould, *OBE*, P.G.Chan.
R.III.Comp. T. F. Jackson, P.G.Chan.
R.III.Comp. A. C. Sweeney, P.G.Chan.
R.III.Comp. P. R. Clement, P.G.Chan.
R.III.Comp. G. L. Flight, P.G.Chan.
R.III.Comp. J. R. Paternoster, P.G.Chan.
R.III.Comp. R. G. Fretten, P.G.Chan.

PAST GRAND COUNCILLORS

R.III.Comp. A. C. Moles, P.G.Coun.
R.III.Comp. B. W. Price, *OBE*, P.G.Coun.
R.III.Comp. P. H. Rollin, P.G.Coun.
R.III.Comp. D. Baum, P.G.Coun.
R.III.Comp. J. P. Croft, P.G.Coun.
R.III.Comp. E. G. Hughes, P.G.Coun.
R.III.Comp. R. B. F. Khambatta, P.G.Coun.
R.III.Comp. R. V. Phillimore, P.G.Coun.
R.III.Comp. A. D. J. Rosser, P.G.Coun.
R.III.Comp. M. E. Slater, P.G.Coun.
R.III.Comp. N. A. Willows, P.G.Coun.
R.III.Comp. S. J. B. Barlow, P.G.Coun.
R.III.Comp. Revd W. D. Payne-Jeremiah, *SBS&J, JP*, P.G.Coun.
R.III.Comp. A. E. Stewart, P.G.Coun.
R.III.Comp. M. J. Louis, *JP*, P.G.Coun.

COMPANIONS FROM OVERSEAS

South Africa:

III.Comp. A. Spencer

South & East Caribbean:

III.Comp. J. P. Aspinall, *MBE*, P.G.Stwd.

Unattached Councils:

III.Comp. D. S. Rose, P.G.Capt.Gd. – Grafton Council of Anointed Kings No. 16 (UK)

III.Comp. T. Barrau – The Netherlands Council No. 163

III.Comp. E. Bamford – Indalo Council No. 284 (Spain)

III Comp. S. P. Preston – Elche Council No. 297 (Spain)

DEPUTATIONS FROM OTHER GRAND COUNCILS

Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Greece:

M.III.Comp. A. Lempesis, Grand Master

South East Asia:

R.III.Comp. Dr B. K. Khoo, Dist.G.M.

also P.G.Capt.Gd. and a member of Far East Council No. 156 – Unattached (Hong Kong)

and many other Grand Officers, Past Masters and Companions.

Report of Proceedings

1. OPENING

Grand Council was opened in Ample Form by the Most Illustrious Grand Master.

2. IN MEMORIAM

The Grand Master referred with great regret to the death of a number of Companions, including 36 Grand Officers, since the previous Annual Assembly of Grand Council. He made particular reference to R.III.Comp. Brian John Barfoot, Custodian of the Ninth Arch, R.III.Comp. Richard Ferro, P.G.Coun., R.III.Comp. Maj. Gen. Rudolph George Edward Green, *CD, JP*, P.G.Coun., R.III.Comp. Peter Oliver Preston, P.G.Coun., R.III.Comp. John Gilbert Frederick Rynsard, P.G.Coun.; and R.III.Comp. Revd Philip John Swindells, P.G.Coun.

The Companions stood to order while the Grand Chaplain offered prayer.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the Annual Meeting of Grand Council, held on 19 April 2016, having been circulated with the Summons, were taken as read and confirmed.

4. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

On the proposition of the President of the Executive Committee, seconded by the Grand Recorder, the Report of the Executive Committee for the period ending 31 December 2016, which had been printed and circulated with the Summons for the meeting and is printed as **Appendix A** hereto, was taken as read. The Report was then approved, adopted and entered on the minutes.

5. REPORT OF THE GRAND TREASURER

The Grand Recorder addressed Grand Council as follows:

'Most Illustrious Grand Master and Companions, the Grand Treasurer is unable to be with us today and on his behalf I present his comments on the audited accounts. The accounts show a healthy increase in gains on investment income and an even healthier increase in gains on Investments. I am therefore pleased to propose, on his behalf, that the Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 August 2016, the Balance Sheet as at that date and the Statutory Auditor's Report, all of which have been printed and circulated with the Summons for this meeting, be received and entered on the minutes.' (The Report is printed as **Appendix B** hereto.)

6. ELECTION AND PROCLAMATION OF THE MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTER

On the proposition of the Deputy Grand Master, seconded by the Grand Principal Conductor of the Work and carried nem con by the Companions present, M.III.Comp. Kessick John Jones was re-elected as Grand Master for the ensuing year.

The Most Illustrious Grand Master was then proclaimed by the Grand Director of Ceremonies as follows:

Be it known that KESSICK JOHN JONES, Bachelor of Arts of the Open University; Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies in the United Fraternity of Antient, Free and Accepted Masons of England; Past Grand Standard Bearer in the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England; Past Grand Junior Warden in and Grand Director of Ceremonies of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and its Districts and Lodges Overseas, and a member of the Grand Master's Royal Ark Council in the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariner; Knight Commander of the United Orders of the Great Priory of the United Religious, Military and Masonic Orders of the Temple and of St John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes and Malta of England and Wales and its Provinces Overseas; Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret 32nd Degree in the Ancient and Accepted Rite under the Supreme Council 33rd Degree for England and Wales and its Districts and Chapters Overseas; Past Grand High Almoner in the Grand Imperial Conclave for England and Wales and its Divisions and Conclaves Overseas of the Masonic and Military Order of the Red Cross of Constantine

and the Orders of the Holy Sepulchre and of St John the Evangelist; Past Grand Senior Warden in the Grand Council of the Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees of England and Wales and Districts and Councils Overseas; Past Grand Visitor in the Grand Conclave of the Order of the Secret Monitor, or Brotherhood of David and Jonathan, in the British Isles and its Districts and Conclaves Overseas; Grand Lecturer of the Grand Senatus of the Ancient and Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord in the British Isles and its Districts and Consistories Overseas; Grand VII Pillar of the Grand College of Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests and Order of Holy Wisdom; Past Grand Registrar in the Grand Priory of the Knights Beneficent of the Holy City of the Rectified Scottish Rite of England and Wales; Provincial Grand Marischal of the Provincial Grand Lodge of London and Metropolitan Counties in the Royal Order of Scotland; Grand Master, etc., etc., etc., has this day been elected and proclaimed Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Order of Royal and Select Masters of England and Wales and its Districts and Councils Overseas; whom may the Supreme Master of the Universe long preserve.

The Most Illustrious Grand Master was saluted under the direction of the Grand Director of Ceremonies. The Most Illustrious Grand Master returned thanks.

7. APPOINTMENT AND PROCLAMATION OF THE RIGHT ILLUSTRIOUS DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

The Most Illustrious Grand Master announced the re-appointment of R.III.Comp. His Honour Ian Douglas Gavin Alexander, QC, as Deputy Grand Master for the ensuing year. The Deputy Grand Master was then proclaimed by the Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies as follows:

Be it known that IAN DOUGLAS GAVIN ALEXANDER, One of her Majesty's retired Judges of the Crown Court of England and Wales; One of her Majesty's Counsel Learned in the Law; Bachelor of Law, Honours, of University College, London Bencher of the Honorable Society of Lincoln's Inn; Past Junior Grand Warden in the United Fraternity of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of England; Past Grand Registrar in the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England; Provincial Grand Master for Oxfordshire in the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and its Districts and Lodges Overseas and in the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariner, and a member of the Grand Master's Royal Ark Council (Honoris Causa) in the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariner; Knight Commander of the United Orders and Great Chancellor of the Great Priory of the United Religious, Military and Masonic Orders of the Temple and of St John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes and Malta of England and Wales and its Provinces Overseas; Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret 32nd Degree, in the Ancient and Accepted Rite under the Supreme Council 33rd Degree for England and Wales and its Districts and Chapters Overseas; Grand Registrar of the Grand Imperial Conclave for England and Wales and its Divisions and Conclaves Overseas of the Masonic and Military Order of the Red Cross of Constantine and the Orders of the Holy Sepulchre and of St John the Evangelist; Past Grand Registrar in the Grand Council of the Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees of England and Wales and Districts and Councils Overseas; Past Grand Guide in and Deputy Grand Registrar of the Grand Conclave of the Order of the Secret Monitor, or Brotherhood of David and Jonathan, in the British Isles and its Districts and Conclaves Overseas; Past Grand Sword Bearer in the Grand Senatus of the Ancient and Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord in the British Isles and its Districts and Consistories Overseas; Past Grand IV Pillar in the Grand College of Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests and Order of Holy Wisdom; Grand Registrar of the Grand Priory of the Knights Beneficent of the Holy City of the Rectified Scottish Rite of England and Wales; Past Provincial Grand Junior Warden in the Provincial Grand Lodge of London and Metropolitan Counties in the Royal Order of Scotland; Deputy Grand Master, etc., etc., etc., has this day been appointed and proclaimed Right Illustrious Deputy Grand Master of the Order of Royal and Select Masters of England and Wales and its Districts and Councils Overseas; whom may the Supreme Master of the Universe long preserve.

The Deputy Grand Master was saluted under the direction of the Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies. The Deputy Grand Master returned thanks.

8. APPOINTMENT AND PROCLAMATION OF THE RIGHT ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR OF THE WORK

The Most Illustrious Grand Master announced the re-appointment of R.III.Comp. Lieutenant Colonel John Craven Chambers as Grand Principal Conductor of the Work for the ensuing year.

The Grand Principal Conductor of the Work was then proclaimed by the Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies as follows:

Be it known that JOHN CRAVEN CHAMBERS, a Lieutenant Colonel in Her Majesty's Army; Bachelor of Science of the Royal Military College of Science; Master of Science of Cranfield University; Past Junior Grand Deacon in the United Fraternity of Antient, Free and Accepted Masons of England; Past Assistant Grand Sojourner in the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England; Past Grand Master Overseer in the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and its Districts and Lodges Overseas and Holder of Grand Rank in the Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Royal Ark Mariner; Past Second Great Constable in the Great Priory of the United Religious, Military and Masonic Orders of the Temple and of St John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes and Malta of England and Wales and its Provinces Overseas; Grand Inspector Inquisitor Commander 31st Degree in the Ancient and Accepted Rite under the Supreme Council 33rd Degree for England and Wales and its Districts and Chapters Overseas; Past Grand High Almoner in the Grand Imperial Conclave for England and Wales and its Divisions and Conclaves Overseas of the Masonic and Military Order of the Red Cross of Constantine and the Orders of the Holy Sepulchre and of St John the Evangelist; Past Deputy Grand Master in the Grand Council of the Order of the Allied Masonic Degrees of England and Wales and Districts and Councils Overseas; Grand Counsellor of the Grand Conclave of the Order of the Secret Monitor, or Brotherhood of David and Jonathan, in the British Isles and its Districts and Conclaves Overseas; Past Grand Lecturer in and Grand Organist of the Grand Senatus of the Ancient and Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord in the British Isles and its Districts and Consistories Overseas; Past Grand First Pillar in the Grand College of Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests and Order of Holy Wisdom; Past Grand Herald in and Grand Organist of the Grand Priory of the Knights Beneficent of the Holy City of the Rectified Scottish Rite of England and Wales; Provincial Grand Director of Music of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the City of London in the Royal Order of Scotland; Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, etc., etc., etc., has this day been appointed and proclaimed Right Illustrious Grand Principal Conductor of the Work of the Order of Royal and Select Masters of England and Wales and its Districts and Councils Overseas; whom may the Supreme Master of the Universe long preserve.

The Grand Principal Conductor of the Work was saluted under the direction of the Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies. The Grand Principal Conductor of the Work returned thanks.

9. APPOINTMENT OF CUSTODIANS OF THE NINTH ARCH

The Grand Recorder read the names of those Companions whom the Most Illustrious Grand Master had appointed to the honour and dignity of Custodian of the Ninth Arch as follows:

R.III.Comp. Roeinton Burjor Framji Khambatta, P.G.Coun.

R.III.Comp. David Ivor Williams, P.Dist.G.M., London.

The Grand Director of Ceremonies presented the Companions to the Most Illustrious Grand Master who duly invested them.

10. ELECTION OF THE GRAND TREASURER

On the proposition of the President of the Executive Committee, seconded by the Grand Recorder and carried nem con by the Companions present, R.III.Comp. T. F. Auber, P.G.Coun., was re-elected Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year.

11. APPOINTMENT OF GRAND OFFICERS 2017/2018

The Grand Recorder read the names of those Companions whom the Most Illustrious Grand Master had appointed to Grand Rank:

Active Officers

- Grand Chancellor..... James Henry Newman
- Grand Councillor..... John Ernest Vince
- Grand Chaplain..... Louis Maurice Keats
- Grand Treasurer Thomas Frederick Auber, P.G.Coun.
- President of the Executive Committee..... Richard Ludwik Gan, *JP*, IX
- Grand Recorder Lt Cdr Angus Patrick Douglas Hannagan, *RD*, P.G.Coun.
- Grand Director of Ceremonies Paul Anthony Norman, P.G.Coun.
- Grand Lecturer..... Raymond John Smith
- Deputy Grand Chaplain Revd Malcolm Clifford George Lane, *JP*
- Deputy Grand Recorder..... Ryan Andrew Williams, P.G.D.C.
- Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies Dr Nigel Francis John Scott-Moncrieff
Christopher James Bowles, *JP*
- Grand Captain of the Guard Colin Robert Woodcock, *MBE*
- Grand Conductor of the Council Frank Cornelis Johannes Poot
- Assistant Grand Chaplain Revd Dr Derek John Oliver
- Assistant Grand Recorders..... Jonathan Charles Roberts
Daniel Mark Heath
- Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies Glyn Raymond Goddard
Bryan Kennedy
- Grand Sword Bearer..... Colin Paul Tunbridge
- Grand Standard Bearer Gp Capt. Peter John Brindle
- Grand Organist John Henry Hitchin
- Deputy Grand Organist..... Wayne Buffett Warlow, P.G.Cond.C.
- Grand Steward..... Paul Leslie Harrison
- Grand Manciples..... Christopher Arthur Boorman
Brian John Cook
Brian Frederick Protheroe
Raymond Stokes
- Grand Sentinel..... Leonard John Millings, P.A.G.D.C.

Promotions

- Past Grand Chancellor
Anthony Clive Moles
- Past Grand Councillor
Noel Alfred Brian Grout
Joseph Sidney Honniball
Lawrence Tinkler
- Past Grand Lecturer
Roger Deacon
David Spencer Enock
Peter William Hughes
Geoffrey Alan Keer
Dr Boo Khean Khoo
Clive Roland Mansfield
Stewart Charles Lambert Middleton
Capt. Walter David Porter
Phillip John Purves
David Keith Rhodes
Jonathan Charles Roberts
David Stewart Rose
Justice (Ret) Mohideen Pierre Haja Rubin
David Graham Shipley
Alan Eli Smith
Ian James Thorpe
- Past Grand Captain of the Guard
Arthur Charles Barker
Jeffery Albert Edward Bennett
Anthony Bernard Brailsford
John Thorrowgood Drake
Richard Eaglesfield Floyd
David Gareth Gait

Past Grand Captain of the Guard (*cont.*)

Edwin Bryant Goodwin
Timothy Paul Hatton
Keith Ireland
Thomas Richard Eirian Jones
James Francis George Leach
David Benjamin Morris
Graham Roderick Paskins
Dr Brent Elliot Vincent Augustus Phillips

William John Thomas Pratt
Stephen Roberts
Glen Francis Sapsford
Michael Damian Saxon
Thomas James Spinks
Donald Stevenson
Colin Michael Thompson
Garry David Witts

Past Grand Conductor of the Council

James Stewart Allan
John Philip Aspinall, *MBE*
Cdr Charles Jonathan Aspinell, *RD, JP*
Clare John Billin
Raymond Ian Edmondson
Clive Barry Egerton
Christopher Francis George
Stephen John Hall
James Henry Harris
Paul Harrison
Thomas Arthur James Hatchett

John Rutherford Johnstone
Stuart Mills
Stanley Clive Pullin
Eric Robinson
John Railton Simons
Robert Stephens
Keith Burnidge Waller
Tim Weller
David Christopher White
Harold Peter John Wright

Past Assistant Grand Chaplain

Keith Roger Duncan Waters

Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies

Brian Holland

Past Ranks (First Appointments)

Past Grand Conductor of the Council

Mark Richard Saunders

Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies

Perri Ahmet
John Derek Allen
Stephen William Bailey
Eddy Bamford
Stephen John Bradford
William Taylor Clark
Andrew John Dive
George Rex Field
Kenneth Roy Gooden
Alan Hall
Roger Francis Hall-Jones
Matthew Damian Hampson

Kenneth William Healey
Graham Derek Herrington
Barrie James Howard
Malcolm John Kidd
Andrew John Kilvington
Balbir Singh Lotay
John Peck
Martin Leland Preece
Gordon Rice
Ian Douglas Russell
Kenneth James Saxon
Brian Arthur John Wright

Past Grand Sword Bearer

Theo Barrau
Dunstan Barrow
John Peter Wilfred Beresford
John Boyington, *CBE*
Peter Brindley
Ralph Cuthbertson
Jeffrey Edward Davies
Brian Harrison Drake
Philip Dunn
Geoffrey Raymond Gill

Martyn Ronald Hale
David Francis Henwood
Richard John Hill
Michael Albert Irons
Alastair Mackenzie
Hugh William Moir
Michael Barry Smith
Terence Victor Speight
David Thompson
Neil Edwin Austin Watkin

Past Grand Standard Bearer

Ian Atkinson
Richard Walter Baber
John Michael Baker
Leslie Baker
Rodney Edward Booth
Nigel John Bridges
Edward George Casey
Michael Gerald Casey
Brian Daley
David John Elsley
Peter Edward Hine
David John Hodgkinson
Thomas Anthony Lewis
Barry Michael Linton

Geoffrey Mankin
Carl Albert McDonald
Duncan McQueen
Frederick Stephen Parsons
Anthony Charles Pointing
Stephen Peter Quant
Graham Virgo Rawlinson
Christopher John Sanderson
Albert Spencer
Terence Roy Stevens
Primus Felicien Suffren
Alan Tibble
Philip Victor Wall
Stephen Wright

Past Grand Steward

Stephen Arthur Gowers
Michael James Gravenor
Jonathan Richard Payne
John Graham Percival

Udipi Badri Narayana Rau
Christopher Charles Rawden
Keith Savage
Michael Turner

12. APPOINTMENTS TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Most Illustrious Grand Master announced that in accordance with Rule 118(i) of the Constitutions and Regulations he had appointed the following Companions to serve on the Executive Committee:

R.III.Comp. S. B. Crutchley, Dist.G.M. for Cheshire, Shropshire & North Wales
R.III.Comp. C. D. Hellyer, Dist.G.M. for Hertfordshire

13. ELECTIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Deputy Grand Master proposed and the Grand Principal Conductor of the Work seconded that under Rule 118(i) the following Companions be elected to the Executive Committee:

R.III.Comp. R. S. C. Mitchell, Dist.G.M. for Lancashire
R.III.Comp. J. Harvey, Dist.G.M. for Northumberland

There having been no other nominations, the Most Illustrious Grand Master declared these two Companions to have been duly elected.

14. APPOINTMENT OF QUALIFIED AND REGISTERED AUDITORS

On the proposition of the President of the Executive Committee, seconded by the Grand Recorder, and carried nem con by the Companions present, Messrs Crowe Clark Whitehill LLP, Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors, were re-appointed as Auditors to Grand Council.

15. ADDRESS BY THE MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTER

The Most Illustrious Grand Master addressed the Companions as follows:

‘Companions, I am so delighted to see so many of you at Grand Council today, and I bid you all a very warm welcome. It is most heartening that you have been able to travel to London to participate in what I am confident will be a happy and joyous occasion, and that many of you will be able to join us at our celebratory luncheon afterwards.

I know that I speak on behalf of you all when I congratulate all the Companions whom I have today appointed to or promoted in Grand Rank.

To those Companions, I will say that our Annual Investiture should be a major milestone in your Cryptic careers and I trust that you will remember today for a long time to come. You should need no reminding that your new status brings new responsibilities and I wish

you well as you continue to serve both your Councils and Grand Council and, I hope, play your part in serving society at large.

It would seem logical to begin my address with a glance at the past year, my first year in office, which has been an eventful one. It hardly seems possible that twelve months has elapsed since that wonderful day last April when I was installed as your Grand Master.

I wouldn't say that my first year has been a "baptism of fire", but has certainly been a busy one. Together with a team of faithful and diligent Active Grand Officers of the Year, most of whom travel at their own expense, we have consecrated no less than six Councils. These were in Crook (Durham); Southport and Leyland (Lancashire); London; St Albans (Hertfordshire); and Beverley in the District of North and East Yorkshire.

I am also delighted to say that four other Consecrations are already in the planning stages and will take place in Newark, Durham, London and Barcelona, later this year.

During last year I also installed three new District Grand Masters and will tell you more about that shortly.

The usual custom practised by Keith Hind Council of putting on a demonstration changed last year and I am very grateful for that, as it allowed a personal friend of mine the opportunity of being chosen as a Select Master. The ceremony took place in that Council, under the Banner of McMahon Council and it was a very impressive occasion. I must thank the TIM, Right Illustrious Companion Vincent Driver, together with all the members of both Councils. I was further privileged to be with them again in January when the same TIM skilfully installed his successor, Right Illustrious Companion John Harvey, my District Grand Master for Northumberland. So, all in all, Keith Hind Council has had a very good year.

I mentioned earlier the three new District Grand Masters and I will now ask them to stand and be recognised as I introduce them. In July last year I was privileged to install Right Illustrious Companion Ken Downes as District Grand Master for Wyvern – this was in consequence of the retirement of Right Illustrious Companion Eric Bourne.

In early October, I had the pleasure of installing Right Illustrious Companion Trevor Sharpe as District Grand Master for Kent following the retirement of Right Illustrious Companion Roger O'Brien.

And in November I was pleased to install Right Illustrious Companion Bernard Marchant as District Grand Master for Sussex after the retirement of Right Illustrious Companion Brian Wareham.

Not forgetting that in August Very Illustrious Companion Paul Knight was installed as District Grand Master for South Africa by his predecessor, Right Illustrious Companion Pieter Johannes Wessels.

Companions, I offered to nip out there and do it myself, but such generosity of heart fell upon deaf ears at 86 St James's!

During the initial stages of all those installation ceremonies I paid tribute to the outgoing District Grand Masters, and I now do so again to thank them for their extremely valuable contribution to the Order and for the legacy of good practice that they have bequeathed to their respective Districts. As for the new boys, I wish you every success in your endeavours and will monitor your progress with interest!

I look forward to further Installations during the year as they may occur, which will commence with East Midlands in July. And thus I extend my personal thanks and the gratitude of the Order to Right Illustrious Companion Michel Jolley who has indicated his intention to retire from office this year. If all goes to plan he will be succeeded by Very Illustrious Companion Martin Wilson.

The Silver Trowel and Excellent Masters Degrees both continue to act as magnets for eager and suitably qualified candidates. The Silver Trowel, now promulgated out to

Districts, is continuing to maintain its momentum. I express my admiration of all the Councils that undertook the task of conferring the Degree during the year; the office of King David is pivotal to the ceremony and demands an excellent standard of ritual.

Grafton Council of Anointed Kings No. 16 still looks after London, the Home Counties and, of course, overseas. Their remit also includes the Excellent Masters Degree. I am delighted to inform you that the ceremony in Bristol, to which I alluded to in my address last year, has now actually taken place – yes, we have now completed our first away fixture! In February, a team from Grafton travelled to Bristol and conferred the Excellent Masters Degree on 19 candidates in the “Veils” Temple at Freemasons’ Hall, Bristol, followed by the Silver Trowel in the R.A. Temple. It was an amazing experience.

I am truly indebted to the Grand Superintendent, M.E. Companion Alan Vaughan, through whose auspices it was made possible. But, most of all, I applaud the members of Grafton for their devotion to the Order and particularly to these two special degrees. And as far as the Bristol trip is concerned, I thank Ian Currans as the Right Worshipful and Excellent Master, and my Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, John Chambers, as King David, for two remarkably fine performances – yet again!

For the time being, the Excellent Masters degree will continue to be conferred in London where we have the required equipment. However, if a suitable venue can be identified in somewhere like York, Sheffield or Leeds, I am prepared to explore the possibility of transporting our kit to the north to confer the degree there, thus avoiding the journey to London. So I ask the District Grand Masters in that neck of the woods to give it some thought and come up with venues and dates. I will leave that ball in your court!

I intimated earlier that the Silver Trowel and Excellent Masters Degrees were continuing to flourish and progress in leaps and bounds. And I can tell you that since last year’s meeting of Grand Council, 104 Companions have received the Silver Trowel with 68 taking the Excellent Masters Degree, together with another 9 Companions who affiliated. Success indeed, however, I still do not intend to change the qualification for either.

There have been no exotic ventures to far flung countries of late, but the Deputy Grand Recorder and I were made most welcome in Athens in February, at the Annual Meeting of the Grand Council of Greece, where we witnessed the Installation of the new Grand Master who, I am delighted to say, is with us today.

Whereas it has been a brilliant Masonic year, personally I have suffered a somewhat “Annus Horribilis” as did the Queen once. The life changing injury that my wife suffered last summer obviously brought with it much personal distress and associated pressure. Thankfully she is now on the road to recovery, but that road will be a long and arduous journey. My family is small but has been incredibly supportive. But the Masonic family is huge and just as caring. And I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you, on her behalf, for all the many tokens of good wishes, encouragement and support from Districts, from Councils and from individuals during her time in hospital and still now.

I must especially mention the generous donation raised in her name by the District of Northumberland, the Allied Masonic District of Durham and the Mark Province of London, that enabled the purchase of vital equipment which will greatly benefit patients now being treated in the rehabilitation unit where Janet spent much of last year.

And now onto much happier things: I would now like to introduce our Guests from other constitutions, overseas visitors and Heads of our own domestic Orders. Companions, please save your enthusiastic and welcoming applause until I have completed the list.

From the Grand Council of Greece, Most Illustrious Companion Athanasios Lempesis, the Grand Master;

From the Grand Council of South East Asia, Right Illustrious Companion Dr Boo Khean Khoo, a District Grand Master and a recipient today.

And from our own Districts:

From the South and East Caribbean, the Past District Grand Master, the ubiquitous Right Illustrious Companion Derek Hugh, together with Illustrious Companion John Aspinall, *MBE*, P.G.Cond.C., also a recipient today;

From Jamaica and The Cayman Islands, the Grand Inspector, Right Illustrious Companion Graham Smith, P.Dist.G.M. for Kent, with whom I have a passing acquaintance!

From South Africa, one of the recipients today, Illustrious Companion Albert Spencer, Past District Grand Chaplain, and now Past Grand Standard Bearer.

From Unattached Councils:

From The Netherlands Council No. 163, Illustrious Companion Theo Barrau, a recipient of Past Grand Sword Bearer today; from Grafton Council of Anointed Kings No. 16 (UK), Very Illustrious Companion David Rose, Past Grand Lecturer, a recipient today; from Indalo Council No. 284 (Spain), Illustrious Companion Eddy Bamford, P.A.G.D.C., also a recipient today; and from Elche Council No. 297 (Spain), Illustrious Companion Stephen Preston.

Thank you all for travelling significant distances to be with us.

Now from Sister Orders:

Right Illustrious Companion Richard Wallis – Pro Grand Master of the G.L.M.M.M.;

Right Illustrious Companion Graham Flight – Grand Sovereign of the Red Cross of Constantine;

Right Illustrious Companion Tom Jackson – Grand Master of the Allied Masonic Degrees;

Right Illustrious Companion Paul Clement – Grand Supreme Ruler of the Order of the Secret Monitor;

Right Illustrious Companion Andrew Sweeney – Grand Summus of the Ancient and Masonic Order of the Scarlet Cord;

Right Illustrious Companion Nigel Willows – First Grand Master Mason of the Worshipful Society of Operative Freemasons;

Companion Christopher Maiden – Grand High Priest of the Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests and Order of Holy Wisdom;

Right Illustrious Companion Michael Herbert, Past Deputy Grand Master – Grand Master of the Grand Priory of the Knights Beneficent of the Holy City;

And Right Illustrious Companion John Paternoster – Supreme Magus of the Societas Rosicruciana in Anglia.

There also one another I would like to mention: Right Illustrious Companion Michael Spencer, P.G.P.C.W., upon whom has been bestowed the Order of Service to Cryptic Masonry. Michael, we know that you are not in the rudest of health and are about to start a programme of treatment soon. We all wish you well and I am grateful that you made the effort to be here today. It would not have been the same without you.

Now Companions let us welcome them all.

Once again, all of us owe a vote of thanks to the Grand Recorder and his staff for all their industry and endeavour in the preparation for this meeting; to the Grand Director of Ceremonies and his team of Deputies, Assistants and Manciples, and the Grand Sentinel for such a splendid execution of all the ceremonial aspects; and to John Vasquez and the staff here at F.M.H. I would especially like to comment most favourably on the exceptional delivery of all the proclamations today.

When it comes to gratitude I thank all my District Grand Masters, not only for all being here today and from all parts of England and Wales, but I thank you also for the sterling service you give to the Order all year round. You are all different, but are all delightful, splendid chaps and I could not do without you.

Companions, in approaching the end of what I shall be saying this afternoon, I want to make special reference to the approaching retirement of our Grand Recorder. As you may well be aware, Right Illustrious Companion Angus Hannagan will retire in June after a distinguished career as both Deputy Grand Recorder and Grand Recorder. During the past five years Companion Angus has been at the administrative forefront of the changes and progressions in our Order and the challenges we have faced. He has been a fine ambassador for Cryptic Masonry, both nationally and internationally. His enthusiasm and example will leave his successor with an excellent legacy to build upon and I welcome this opportunity to express the warm thanks of all Cryptic Masons for all that he has done for us. We wish him and Sue every happiness in his retirement.

Our Order continues to be talked about and its popularity is still increasing. So I urge you to build upon that ground swell of interest and make sure that the Order is readily available to all Royal Arch Companions and Mark Master Masons who show an interest – with or without some gentle persuasion!

I remain convinced that we can only find such success by investing time and care in keeping our Craft Lodges and Royal Arch Chapters thriving and as productive as possible. A fitting challenge in the Craft's tercentenary year and we congratulate them on reaching this significant milestone in their history. In short, Companions, success for them must mean success for us.

On that subject, a certain Brazilian football star going by the name of Pelé once said: "Success is no accident; it is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice and, most of all, the love of what you are doing".

Companions, continue to enjoy your Cryptic Masonry – it is very special, please keep it that way. And, finally, Companions, be of one mind, live in peace and may the God of love and mercy delight to dwell amongst you and bless you forever more. Thank you.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Most Illustrious Grand Master enquired as to whether the Grand Recorder had any further business to bring before Grand Council and the Grand Recorder replied that there was none. The Most Illustrious Grand Master then stated that there was one further item of business and proceeded to promote the Grand Recorder to the rank of Past Grand Chancellor.

17. CLOSING

Grand Council was closed in Ample Form.

Report of the Executive Committee

1. Membership

During the past twelve months (1 January 2016 to 31 December 2016) 272 new members have been admitted into the Order.

The total subscribing membership of the Order as at 31 December 2016 was 6,517.

2. Appointments

The Illustrious Grand Master has been pleased to make the following appointments at his pleasure:

III.Comp. DOUGLAS GRAHAM SANDERSON, P.G.Capt.Gd., to be District Grand Master for Cumberland and Westmorland with effect from 12 March 2016;

V.III.Comp. KENNETH LEONARD DOWNES, JP, P.G.Lect., to be District Grand Master for Wyvern with effect from 30 July 2016;

V.III.Comp. PAUL STEWART KNIGHT, P.G.Lect., to be District Grand Master for South Africa with effect from 27 August 2016;

III.Comp. TREVOR MARLEY SHARPE, P.A.G.D.C., to be District Grand Master for Kent with effect from 1 October 2016;

III.Comp. BERNARD FRANK MARCHANT, P.A.G.D.C., to be District Grand Master for Sussex with effect from 21 November 2016.

3. Warrants of Constitution

The Most Illustrious Grand Master has been pleased to grant Warrants for the following Councils:

Mesa de Salomon No. 324 – Unattached (Spain)

Arcanum No. 327 – Unattached (Spain)

The Sandgrounder No. 328 – Lancashire

The Prince Bishop No. 329 – Durham

Sæbeorht No. 330 – Hertfordshire

Scribae No. 331 – Lancashire

Jerusalem No. 332 – London

4. Foreign Relations

The relationship of this Grand Council with those of other recognised jurisdictions continues in the same fraternal and harmonious manner. Reports and Communications from our Grand Representatives have been received and visitors from other Constitutions have been welcomed.

5. Grand Honours

Recommendations for the award of Grand Honours must be submitted to the Grand Recorder no later than 31 October annually.

6. Fees and Annual Dues

It has been agreed that the standard rate of Annual Dues payable by Councils to Grand Council for the financial year 1 September 2016 to 31 August 2017 shall be £30.00 (per subscribing member).

The standard rate of registration and other fees payable by Councils to Grand Council for the financial year 1 September 2017 to 31 August 2018 shall be as set out below:

WARRANTS

For a Warrant of Constitution..... at cost

For a Warrant of Confirmation at cost

For a Celebration Warrant at cost

PATENTS

For a District Grand Master at cost

DISPENSATIONS

To install a Companion as Master (not properly qualified).....£30.00

Other Dispensations£30.00

Dispensation (Nunc Pro Tunc).....£58.00

Any request for a Dispensation received less than 21 days before it is required will be treated as a Nunc Pro Tunc Dispensation and charged accordingly.

REGISTRATION

Annual Dues (1 September 2017 and due from 31 August 2018).....£31.00

Annual Dues – Installed Masters' Council£15.50

Registration on Reception or a Joining Companion from another Constitution
not previously registered£30.00

Registration of a Joining Companion previously registered£23.00

Founder member of a new Council being a Companion previously registered£8.00

Duplicate, replacement or amended Grand Council Certificate£30.00

All Fees shown are inclusive of Value Added Tax at the current rate of 20% payable by Councils and Companions in the United Kingdom and the European Union.

7. Obituary

The Executive Committee announces, with deep regret, the death of the following Grand Officers:

R.III.Comp. Brian John Barfoot, IX

R.III.Comp. Richard Ferro, P.G.Coun.

R.III.Comp. Rudolph George Edward Green, *CD, JP*, P.G.Coun.

R.III.Comp. Peter Oliver Preston, P.G.Coun.

R.III.Comp. John Gilbert Frederick Rynsard, P.G.Coun.

R.III.Comp. Philip John Swindells, P.G.Coun.

V.III.Comp. John Sydney Butler, *MSc, DIC, ACGI*, P.G.Lect.

V.III.Comp. Ronald Sidney Edmunds, P.G.Lect.

V.III.Comp. Baron John von Hoff, *OStJ*, P.G.Lect.

III.Comp. Ignace Desire Laval Bany, *MA*, P.G.Capt.Gd.

III.Comp. David Victor Hopkin, P.G.Capt.Gd.

III.Comp. John Hamilton Nicholls, *DFC*, P.G.Capt.Gd.

III.Comp. John Stewart Peddie, P.G.Capt.Gd.

III.Comp. John Smith Thomson, P.G.Capt.Gd.

III.Comp. Leslie Williams, P.G.Capt.Gd.

III.Comp. Ralph Derek Allard, P.G.Cond.C.

III.Comp. Anthony Charles Batcheler, P.G.Cond.C.

III.Comp. William Arthur George, P.G.Cond.C.

III.Comp. Arthur John Miller, P.G.Cond.C.

III.Comp. John Richard Selby, P.G.Cond.C.

III.Comp. Malcolm Ronald Steggall, P.G.Cond.C.

III.Comp. Brian Watson, P.G.Cond.C.

III.Comp. George Derek Bailey, *FICA*, P.A.G.D.C.

III.Comp. William John Blakeborough, P.A.G.D.C.

III.Comp. John Alfred Dalley, P.A.G.D.C.

III.Comp. Graham Trevor Herbert, P.A.G.D.C.

III.Comp. Peter Eric Holland, P.A.G.D.C.

III.Comp. Carl Andrew Rodrigues, P.A.G.D.C.

III.Comp. William Augustus John Thompson, P.A.G.D.C.

III.Comp. David Bruce Ward, P.A.G.D.C.
III.Comp. John Bruce Corbishley, P.G.Swd.B.
III.Comp. Frank Reginald Shelley, P.G.Swd.B.
III.Comp. Gordon Ernest Jones, P.G.St.B.
III.Comp. Frank Harkness Owen, P.G.St.B.
III.Comp. Colin Mansel James, P.G.Mar.
III.Comp. Leonard Peter Palmer, P.G.Stwd.

8. Demonstration of the Degrees of the Order

Information about the 2017/2018 Demonstration of the Degrees of the Order will be notified to District and Council Recorders following the meeting of Grand Council.

9. Administration

The Registrations department should be informed of deaths, resignations or changes of address of Grand Officers as soon as they occur.

District Grand Recorders, Inspectorate Recorders and Recorders of Unattached Councils are requested to address communications either to the Grand Recorder or the most appropriate member of MMH staff by name, depending on the nature of the communication. Communications should only be marked 'Private & Confidential' by exception. All such communications should be sent to:

Grand Council of RSM
Mark Masons' Hall
86 St James's Street
London
SW1A 1PL

1 March 2017

R.III.Comp. R. L. Gan, *JP*, IX
President of the Executive Committee

R.III.Comp. Lt Cdr A. P. D. Hannagan, *RD*, P.G.Coun.
Grand Recorder

**THE GRAND COUNCIL OF ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2016**

The Members of the Executive Committee of The Grand Council of the Order of Royal and Select Masters present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2016.

CUSTODIAN TRUSTEES

The Custodian Trustees of The Grand Council of the Order of Royal and Select Masters who served during the year, and to the date of signing this report, unless otherwise stated are:

H Gould *OBE*

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The responsibilities of the Executive Committee of The Grand Council of the Order of Royal and Select Masters are as follows:

- The day to day management of The Grand Council of the Order of Royal and Select Masters.
- The management of the finances of The Grand Council of the Order of Royal and Select Masters in order to be able to discharge any financial liability that they may correctly incur.
- The installation of the correct policies and procedures in order to monitor and control all financial transactions that they deem necessary.

The Executive Committee is also required to ensure that the future commitments of The Grand Council of the Order of Royal and Select Masters are considered and that appropriate provisions are made.

The members of the Executive Committee of The Grand Council of the Order of Royal and Select Masters are:

His Honour I D G Alexander QC
T F Auber
L E Bourne
Lt Col. J C Chambers (Appointed 19 April 2016)
S B Crutchley
R L Gan *JP*
M B Jolley
K J Jones
M H Lawson (Retired 19 April 2016)
R S C Mitchell
J H Newman (Appointed 19 April 2016)
P A Norman
J A Wright (Retired 19 April 2016)

**THE GRAND COUNCIL OF ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2016**

INVESTMENT POLICY

The Grand Council of the Order of Royal and Select Masters seeks to invest to provide funds for special events and ceremonial meetings.

In accordance with this aim, the funds are managed by J M Finn & Co Ltd. The Investment Committee, appointed by the Executive Committee, reviews the funds on a regular basis.

AUDITOR

Crowe Clark Whitehill LLP has indicated its willingness to be reappointed as auditor.

Approved by the Executive Committee on 23 February 2017 and signed on its behalf by:

**R L Gan *JP*
PRESIDENT**

**Lt Cdr A P D Hannagan *RD*
GRAND RECORDER**

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL OF ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS

We have audited the financial statements of The Grand Council of the Order of Royal and Select Masters for the year ended 31 August 2016 set out on pages 20 to 23. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and FRS102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, applicable to smaller entities.

This report is made solely to The Grand Council of the Order of Royal and Select Masters and its members, as a body. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than The Grand Council of the Order of Royal and Select Masters and its members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of the Executive Committee and auditor

The Executive Committee is responsible for the control and management of all the property and the finances of The Grand Council of the Order of Royal and Select Masters including for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. In preparing the financial statements the Executive Committee is required to select suitable accounting policies and to apply them consistently, make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent, and prepare the financial statements on a going concern unless this is inappropriate. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the circumstances of The Grand Council of the Order of Royal and Select Masters and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Executive Committee; and the overall presentation of the financial statements.

In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Executive Committee Report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of The Grand Council of the Order of Royal and Select Masters as at 31 August 2016 and of its surplus for the year then ended; and
- have been prepared in accordance with FRS102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, applicable to smaller entities.

Crowe Clark Whitehill LLP
Statutory Auditor
London
Date: 24 February 2017

**THE GRAND COUNCIL OF ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2016**

	2016 £	2015 £
INCOME		
Investment income	<u>143</u>	<u>131</u>
	143	131
EXPENDITURE		
Investment Managers Fees	57	53
Operating Surplus for the year	86	78
Realised & unrealised gain/(loss) on Investments	<u>1,716</u>	<u>985</u>
SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR	<u>1,802</u>	<u>1,063</u>

Notes:

The following sums were received into The Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons General Fund by way of dues, fees etc. from the members of The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters during the year ended 31 August 2016.

	2016 £	2015 £
Annual Dues	142,300	134,852
Registration Fees	9,615	10,969
Warrants (at cost)	634	331
Fees of Honour	15,958	14,150
Dispensations	412	213
Year Book	2,712	3,547
Excellent Masters	3,086	3,348
Silver Trowel	<u>2,349</u>	<u>3,747</u>
	<u>177,066</u>	<u>171,157</u>

The notes on pages 22 to 23 form part of these financial statements.

**THE GRAND COUNCIL OF ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS
BALANCE SHEET
31 AUGUST 2016**

	Notes	£	2016 £	2015 £
INVESTMENTS				
Investments at Market Value	4		12,780	<u>11,119</u>
Historic Cost £11,200 (2015: £3,759)				
CURRENT ASSETS				
Sundry Debtors		213		70
Cash at bank		3,005		<u>3,005</u>
		3,218		3,075
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Creditors		(15)		<u>(13)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS			3,203	<u>3,062</u>
TOTAL ASSETS			15,983	<u>14,181</u>
Represented by:				
CAPITAL FUND				
Balance at 1 September 2015	5		14,181	13,118
Surplus for the year			1,802	<u>1,063</u>
BALANCE AT 31 August 2016			15,983	<u>14,181</u>

T F Auber
Grand Treasurer

Date: 23 February 2017

The notes on pages 22 to 23 form part of these financial statements.

**THE GRAND COUNCIL OF ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2016**

1. ENTITY INFORMATION

The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters is an unincorporated association and operates from Mark Masons' Hall, 86 St. James's Street, London, SW1A 1PL.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with FRS 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, applicable to small entities. The date of transition to FRS102 was 1 August 2014 and in preparing the financial statements, the Trustees have considered whether the accounting policies required by the standard require the restatement of comparative information. A reconciliation of the changes to the previously reported position as a result in these changes is included in Note 6 to these financial statements.

(b) Investments

Listed investments are measured at fair value through income and expenditure, and are reported at their market value at each balance sheet date.

(c) Debtors and creditors

Short-term debtors are measured at transaction price less any impairment. Short-term creditors are measured at transaction price.

3. CORPORATION TAX

The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters has received dispensation from HM Revenue & Customs to be treated as dormant with respect to untaxed income. No tax is payable on income received gross up to a specified level.

4. INVESTMENTS

	2016	<i>2015</i>
	£	£
Quoted at Market Value	12,780	<i>11,119</i>
Historic Cost	11,200	<i>3,759</i>

5. CAPITAL FUND

Balance at 1 September 2015	14,181	<i>13,118</i>
Surplus on Income and Expenditure Account	1,802	<i>1,063</i>
Balance at 31 August 2016	15,983	<i>14,181</i>

**THE GRAND COUNCIL OF ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2016**

6. TRANSITION TO FRS 102	At 1 September 2014 £	At 31 August 2015 £
Reconciliation of reserves		
Reserves (as previously stated)	6,743	6,821
Restatement of investments to fair value	6,375	7,360
	13,118	14,181
Reconciliation of 2015 surplus for the period		
2015 surplus as previously stated		78
Gains on investments		985
2015 surplus as stated		1,063

