

The Warwickshire Rose

The Newsletter for Members of the Ancient and Accepted Rite

V. Ill. Bro Peter John Turner 33° Inspector General

February 2009

Changes at the top

The Sovereign Grand Commander, M. P. Bro Gerald L Tedder 33°, has recently requested the Supreme Council to accept his retirement from that office and from Supreme Council with effect from 31 March 2009. The Supreme Council, with regret, has accepted his request and in doing so has acknowledged the enormous debt of gratitude owed by all members for the outstanding service he has rendered to the Rite over many years. With effect from 1 April 2009 M. Ill. Bro J L W Wright RD FRCS 33° will be the Sovereign Grand Commander, M. Ill. Bro A W Hanbury-Bateman 33° will be the Grand Marshal, and V. Ill. Bro G D A Elgood 33° will be the Grand Captain General having been elected to the Supreme Council. Membership of the Supreme Council and the order of precedence from 1 April 2009 will be:

M. P. Bro J L W Wright RD FRCS 33° - Sovereign Grand Commander
V. P. Bro A J Englefield 33° - Lieutenant Grand Commander
M. Ill. Bro Rev Dr M Morgan 33° - Grand Prior
M. Ill. Bro H W J Stubbs 33° - Grand Treasurer General H. E.
M. Ill. Bro Sir Frederick Crawford DL 33° - Grand Chancellor
M. Ill. Bro His Hon D G F Franks 33° - Grand Chamberlain
M. Ill. Bro A W Hanbury-Bateman 33° - Grand Marshal
M. Ill. Bro G D A Elgood 33° - Grand Captain General
M. Ill. Bro R E Furber 33° - Grand Secretary General H. E.

Order of The Eagle and The Rose

The Supreme Council has conferred this award on V. Ill. Bro K W Roorda, Past Inspector General for South Africa, Transvaal, for his exceptional services to the Ancient and Accepted Rite.

Annual dues and fees

The Supreme Council has decided that the annual dues payable on 1 July 2009 will increase by 0.25p to £13.25 (plus VAT where applicable) for every subscribing member of each Chapter.

New Chapters

Warrants have been granted for Guella Chapter No 1190, University of the West Indies Chapter No 1191, and Mount of Olives Chapter No 1192. Four Chapters have surrendered their warrants.

Membership

The number of Chapters at 30 June 2008 was 919 with an average membership of 34. The average age for candidates for Perfection is 52.

Visits to other jurisdictions

Any Brother intending to visit a Chapter in a jurisdiction with which the Supreme Council is in amity, other than Scotland or Ireland, must obtain the Inspector General's approval in advance.

Sovereigns, Generals and Recorders' Meeting

The annual District meeting for Sovereigns and Generals was held at Alderson House, Warwick on Wednesday 21 January 2009. For the first time, Chapter Recorders were also invited. A wide-ranging discussion took place with particular emphasis on the various initiatives being promulgated by the Inspector General to recruit and retain new members. A copy of the Minutes of the meeting has been sent to all Chapter Recorders for them to circulate to their Most Wise Sovereign and Generals and any other interested Brethren.

Visiting Team

A Visiting Team, under the leadership of Ill.:Bro David Williams 30°, has been set up to visit and encourage those Chapters in the District with reduced membership. Any Brother who would like to be a member of this team, or Chapters who would welcome a visit from the team, should contact David on david.williams31@ntlworld.com

Congratulations

On behalf of the District, congratulations are offered to the following Brethren on their election on 13 November 2008 to the 30°: William E Davies (Silhill Chapter RC No 937), Eric T Hancox (Leigh Chapter RC No 681), Victor W Keene (St Benedict Chapter RC No 403), John L Overton (Greswolde Chapter RC 851), Brian A Shaw (Barnard Chapter RC No 190), H Michael Skelton (Cathedral Chapter RC No 258) and John AB Wolfe (Shakespear Chapter RC No 15). Most of these Brethren will be receiving their 30° at the Grand East on 19 May 2009.

Silver Jubilee meeting of Silhill Chapter

On 21 May Silhill Chapter No 937 will celebrate its Silver Jubilee at Solihull Masonic Temple and invites any Rose Croix Mason to share this happy event with them. Ill.:Bro Geoffrey Hooker 32°, one of the four surviving Founders, will present a short history of the first Twenty Five years and The Most Wise Sovereign will be presented with a baton for the use of the Chapter on which will be engraved details of the event and his name. The Inspector General is expected to be in attendance. Any Brother wishing to attend this auspicious and enjoyable event should apply to Ill.:Bro Eric Todd 30° at 12 Moorhills Croft, Shirley, Solihull, B90 2QB or on 0121744 3902 or at eric.todd3@btopenworld.com The cost for a four course meal will be £21.00. There will be a pay bar open from 5.00pm and the Chapter will be opened at 6.00pm.

A Chapter Saved

Barnard Chapter No 190, Consecrated in 1917, has numbered many distinguished Masons amongst its Past Sovereigns but in recent years has suffered from a declining membership and was considered no longer viable. It was about to surrender its Warrant but at the last moment was invited to change its meeting place to Severn Street so that for the first time a specifically Christian Order would be available there. An enthusiastic group of Brethren who have a great fondness for the Severn Street premises, led by Ill.:Bro Richard Wallis 31°, have applied to join the Chapter in sufficient numbers to make it viable once more. It holds its Enthronement Meeting on 17 February when at least one new Candidate will be proposed for Perfection. A Chapter which had been thought lost appears to have survived to hold its Centenary celebrations in eight years time and to go forward to its second hundred years. The Brethren concerned have good reason to be proud of their achievement and dedication.

Rodney Pitham 30°
Editor

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