

New Provincial Grand Master

The start of a new era in the history of the Mark Province of South Wales was launched on the 1 June this year when VWBro Thomas Richard Eirian Jones was installed as the new Provincial Grand Master.

The Province was honoured by the presence of the Pro Grand Master, RWBro Richard Victor Wallis who conducted the most impressive ceremony. He was supported by a distinguished team from Mark Masons' Hall in London, which included a son of the Province, the Deputy Grand Secretary, VWBro Ryan Williams.

For this occasion, the Masonic Hall in Cardiff was, as predicted, full to bursting with a huge attendance of Brethren from within the Province and from far afield. For the meal which followed, all three dining rooms were utilised



The new PGM with the Installation team.



The new PGM with the Pro Grand Master.

to their full capacity. After his installation, the new Provincial Grand Master invested the new Deputy Provincial Grand Master, WBro Dr Paul Richard Calderwood, and the new Assistant Provincial Grand Master, WBro Stephen Charles Evans Harries, at the start of a long list of appointments and promotions to very deserving Brethren.

A Fond Farewell

In April and May this year, RWBro Paul Raymond Clement attended his last Mark and Royal Ark Mariner Installation meetings in his capacity as the Provincial Grand Master of South Wales and both events attracted a very large attendance.

The first was at Barry on 5 April when he attended the Installation meeting of Barry Mark Lodge No.1043 and the second was in Merthyr Tydfil at the Installation meeting of St Tydfil Royal Ark Mariner Lodge No.639 on 10 May.

On both occasions, many heartfelt thanks were expressed to RWBro Paul for his outstanding service to the Province. It brought to a close a remarkably long period of twenty years in the Mark Executive, firstly as Deputy Provincial Grand Master for twelve years and then as PGM for a further eight years.

We shall have the opportunity of expressing our thanks to RWBro Paul at a Gala Evening in the Autumn, full details will be announced in September.



Ralph's Long and Distinguished service

WBro Ralph Jeffery celebrated 50 years continuous membership of the Mark Degree at a meeting of Langley Mark Lodge No.28 at the Masonic Temple Cardiff on 29 April 2016.

Present were the Provincial Grand Master, RWBro Paul Raymond Clement, and Mrs Molly Clement, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, VWBro Thomas Richard Eirian Jones and Mrs Geraldine Jones, together with a large number of Brethren, Ladies and Guests.

The Provincial Grand Master, accompanied by his Provincial Officers and Grand Officers, entered the Lodge, accepted the gavel and took the chair. He then gave a résumé of WBro Ralph Jeffery's Masonic career and referred to his 25 years service as Lodge Secretary in a Lodge which predates the Province by 11 years; and indeed is older than all except for three of the Provinces within

the Constitution.

VWBro Stanley William Jeffrey Clarke, the Provincial Grand Secretary, read aloud a 50 year Provincial Grand Lodge Certificate and a 50 year Grand Lodge Certificate which the RWProvincial Grand Master then presented to WBro Ralph Jeffery, together with a 50 year Keystone Lapel Badge and a Mark Grand Lodge Token.

The RWProvincial Grand Master added that, in recognition of his services to the Order, Ralph Jeffery was to be promoted at Grand Lodge in June to the rank of Past Grand Junior Overseer, thus conferring on him the title Very Worshipful Brother.

Ralph then thanked the RWProvincial Grand Master for attending the meeting and for his comments. He also thanked the Deputy Provincial Grand Master and all the Brethren and Ladies for their



attendance. After the meeting, a special Festive Board was enjoyed by all and the Worshipful Master, WBro Merlyn Priddle presented bouquets of flowers to Mrs Molly Clement and Mrs Gwyneira Perry

The Mess Dinner Dance

The annual dinner/dance of the South Wales Mark Provincial Grand Officers Mess was hosted by the President, Provincial Senior Warden, WBro Clive Evans, and his wife Mair at the Glyn Clydach Hotel, Dyffryn, near Neath on 13 May 2016.

They were supported by the Provincial Grand Master, RWBro Paul Clement, and his wife Molly together with the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, VWBro Thomas Richard Eirian Jones, and his wife Geraldine.

The event was a great success and was supported by Brethren and guests, making a total of 130. The cabaret featured the singer Carl Evans and it was followed by a discotheque and dancing. An extremely large raffle then raised £665 for charity.

The President of the Mess paid special thanks to the organiser of the event, WBro Neil Charles, and his hard-working team.

Our photograph shows the President of the Mess with his wife



Mair (on the left), supported by the Vice President, WBro Keith Dascombe, and his wife, Toni.

Rhaeadr Celebrating 50 years since its Consecration

Celebrating fifty years since its consecration, Rhaeadr Gwy Mark Lodge No.1318 attracted a large attendance of over one hundred, consisting of Brethren and their ladies on 9 April this year at its new venue, the Glenusk Hotel in Llandrindod Wells.

The Provincial Grand Master, RWBro Paul Raymond Clement presented the Worshipful Master, WBro David Elliott, with a Provincial Certificate to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary and the warm-up celebrations included a most interesting talk on the history of the Lodge which was prepared and presented by WBro Richard Edwards.

At the Lodge's June meeting one of the first acts after his installation as Provincial Grand Master, RWBro Thomas Richard Eirian Jones, presented the Worshipful Master, David Elliott, with the 50th year Jubilee Warrant.



Congratulations!

It is rightly said that it is the hope of reward that sweetens labour, and the truth of this maxim was amply illustrated at two special meetings this year - when some of those who have laboured hard for the Mark and Royal Ark Mariner degrees were rightly rewarded.

On 7 June 2016, twelve members of the Province were invested as Grand Officers at a meeting of Mark Grand Lodge in London. As befits such an outstanding achievement, they were accompanied by a large contingent of supporters from South Wales who travelled up to Freemasons' Hall for the event. Most of them came by rail and filled almost a complete train carriage.

In all some 2,500 Brethren from all parts of the Constitution at home and abroad were present at the investiture which was presided over by the Grand Master, HRH Prince Michael of Kent, and close to 1000 dined after the meeting at the Connaught Rooms. Members of our province who were invested were:

Re-Appointed to active Office:

Grand Inspector of Works, RWBro Neil Howard Matthews.
Deputy Grand Secretary, WBro Ryan Andrew Williams.
Grand Organist, WBro Naunton Charles William Liles.

Appointed to Active Rank:

Grand Junior Deacon, WBro Martin Alan Jones.
Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies, WBro Marc Lewis.

Receiving promotions:

Past Grand Junior Overseer, WBro Ralph Arthur Jeffery.
Past Grand Junior Overseer, WBro Ryan Andrew Williams.
Past Grand Senior Deacon, WBro Alun Williams.
Past Grand Senior Deacon, WBro Jeffrey David Williams.

Appointed To Past Rank:

Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies, WBro Victor George Watkins, JP.
Past Assistant Grand Sword Bearer, WBro William Spencer Shemwell.
Past Assistant Grand Sword Bearer, WBro Ronald Slater.
Past Grand Standard Bearer, WBro Malcolm Grant.

On 23 April at Bridgend, fifteen Brethren were invested with Provincial Royal Ark Mariner Grand Rank at the Provincial Annual Assembly of the Order. It took place within a meeting of the South Wales Installed Commanders Lodge No.1201.

Fifteen Brethren Invested

WBro Christopher L M Davies, St John Lodge No.28.
WBro W Derek Williams, St John Lodge No.28.
WBro Melville Davies, Abertawe Lodge No.179.
WBro Malcolm Grant, Arthur Lewis Lodge No.585.
WBro W A M Jones, Cambria Lodge No.823.
WBro David Baldwin, St Tydfil Lodge No.639.
WBro David S Griffiths, Dunraven Lodge No.950.
WBro Martin A Jones, Barry Lodge No.1043.
WBro William R McEwan Walker, Neath Lodge No.1125.
WBro Kenneth M Gough, Caerffili Lodge No.1348.
WBro William J Jones, Porthcawl Lodge No.1377.
WBro Phillip Bevan, Sir Frederick J Alban Lodge No.1455.
WBro Peter Jones, Cambrensis Lodge No.1528.
WBro Vernon T White, Llynfi Valley Lodge No.1592.
WBro Stephen C E Harries, Sketty Hall Lodge No.1685.



Pictured above with the Provincial Grand Master, VWBro Ryan Williams - who was one of 12 South Wales Brethren honoured at Mark Grand Lodge.



The Launch of a new RAM Lodge in Bridgend

The popularity and success of Daylight Lodges was highlighted again on 4 April 2016 when a new Royal Ark Mariner Lodge was consecrated at Bridgend.

It joins a growing band of Lodges that meet in the morning so that their members can travel home in daylight - after having enjoyed a good lunch together as well.

During the past 25 years the number of such Lodges has increased considerably across all provinces and in all the Masonic Orders.

The new Lodge in Bridgend is called Tremains Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners No.1952 and it is the offspring of another Daylight Lodge; the Tremains Mark Lodge No.1952, which was consecrated just two years ago on 12 May 2014.

The Consecrating Officer was RWBro Paul Raymond Clement and he was assisted by his Deputy and Assistant Provincial Grand Masters, namely VWBro Thomas Richard Eirian Jones and WBro Dr Paul Richard Calderwood.

A most thought-provoking Oration was delivered by the Provincial Grand Chaplain, WBro RevAlistair Swinford. The first Commander of the Tremains Royal Ark Mariner Lodge is WBro Dr Anthony Strachan and he was supported by the other Founder members listed below;

- Bro Roger Edward Walden Andrews, Junior Warden.
- WBro Edward George Bolton, RAM/Grand Rank.
- WBro James Peter Childs, RAM/Grand Rank.
- Bro Edward Farrington Dowland-Owen.
- WBro Brian Edmund Dowling, RAM/Prov GR.
- WBro Phillip David Watcyn Edwards, RAM/Grand Rank.
- Bro Carl Evans.
- Bro David John Hughes.
- Bro Alan Richard Hulbert, Senior Warden.
- WBro Michael John Hulton.
- WBro Martin Alan Jones, RAM/Prov GR.
- WBro Michael John Lewis.
- WBro Andrew Morgan.
- Bro Frederick Lindsay Morgan.

- WBro Richard John Phillips.
- WBro Robert Mervyn Raikes.
- WBro Anthony John Strachan, Commander.
- Bro Peter Eric Taylor.
- WBro Alan Ford Thomas, RAM/Grand Rank.
- WBro Alun Howell Thomas, RAM/Prov GR.
- WBro Alun Williams, RAM/Grand Rank.
- WBro Arnold Williams, RAM/Prov GR.
- WBro Jeffrey David Williams, RAM/Prov GR.
- WBro Stephen Williams, Scribe.
- WBro William Wilson, RAM/Grand Rank.



The Tremains Lodge will meet on the first Friday in May and the fourth Friday in September, and welcomes applications for membership, which should be directed to VWBro Jeffrey Clarke at; swmark@btconnect.com. Picture below shows; the Consecrating Officer and his Assistants – together with the Founders.

